

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in Vermont, improving the water quality of our streams, rivers, lakes and ponds and protecting public health are important shared values of all Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, over 55% of Vermonters dispose of the wastewater from their homes and businesses through the use of onsite septic systems; and

WHEREAS, in order to be permitted, Vermont's onsite septic systems must meet strict siting, design, and installation criteria; and

WHEREAS, septic systems that are not properly maintained can lead to the system's failure resulting in raw sewage polluting Vermont's land and waterways, contaminating drinking water and contributing excess nutrients to lakes, rivers and groundwaters, thereby creating environmental and public health hazards; and

WHEREAS, educating the public about water quality, septic systems and system maintenance will enable Vermonters to do their part in protecting Vermont's environment and public health for this and future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 19-23, 2016 as

SEPTIC-SMART WEEK

in Vermont and encourage all Vermonters to join in this observance.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 2nd day of August, A.D. 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor