

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers and the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men and women combined in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer often develops without symptoms in its early stages, yet it is one of the few cancers that can be prevented and successfully treated through timely screening, including colonoscopies; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the effectiveness of screening, approximately one in three Americans who are eligible are not up to date on recommended colorectal cancer screenings; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2025, an estimated 154,270 new cases of colorectal cancer were diagnosed in the United States, resulting in approximately 52,900 deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, when colorectal cancer is detected at an early stage (Stage I–II), the five-year survival rate is approximately 91 percent, compared to 16 percent when diagnosed at Stage IV; and

**WHEREAS**, colorectal cancer is increasingly affecting younger populations and is projected to become the leading cause of cancer death among adults under age 50 by 2026, underscoring that no age group is exempt from risk; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals living in rural communities experience higher rates of diagnosis and mortality from colorectal cancer than those in urban areas, highlighting disparities in access to screening and care; and

**WHEREAS**, the national goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to increase colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent in every community for all eligible individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month provides an opportunity to honor patients, survivors, caregivers, those lost to the disease, and researchers, while promoting education, prevention, and early detection efforts that can save lives.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Daniel M. Johnson, Mayor of the City of Green Cove Springs, do hereby proclaim **March 2026 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month** in the City of Green Cove Springs, and urge all citizens to take action in promoting awareness, screening, and prevention.

**DONE AND PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, THIS 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.**

***CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA***



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Daniel M. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Erin West, City Clerk