WHEREAS, South Carolinians are fortunate to live and work in a state with good air quality; and

WHEREAS, clean air is an essential natural resource for outdoor work and recreation, agricultural production, and tourism; and

WHEREAS, ground-level ozone is a type of air pollution that forms on hot sunny days when nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) react and typically occurs from May through October; and

WHEREAS, while the Ozone Layer protects us from the sun’s harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation, ozone can be harmful to our health and the environment at ground-level; and

WHEREAS, children and people with pre-existing lung disease such as chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma are especially sensitive to ground-level ozone, with exposure causing shortness of breath, wheezing, and coughing; and

WHEREAS, reducing ground-level ozone lowers health risks for the people in South Carolina and helps ensure our continued quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 1–7, 2007, as

OZONE AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to safeguard our air quality for future generations.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA