

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 2025, over 19% of households in Chapel Hill were estimated to have incomes below poverty level; and

WHEREAS, at 4,000 gallons of use per month, the average water and sewer bill in Chapel Hill requires 17 hours of work at minimum wage before taxes to pay; and

WHEREAS, clean water is critical to public health and the vitality of our community; and

WHEREAS, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) is prohibited by law from providing discounted rates based on income; and

WHEREAS, providing equitable drinking water and wastewater services to the community requires investment in the community's water and wastewater infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, OWASA has worked since 1997 to provide water and sewer bill assistance to members of our community through the Care to Share program; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, Care to Share donations exceeded \$25,700 and provided utility bill support to 84 households; and

WHEREAS, it is easy for OWASA customers to contribute on their monthly water and sewer bill or through a one-time gift to the Care to Share program; and

WHEREAS, non-OWASA customers can support Care to Share by giving directly to the Care to Share program; and

WHEREAS, during the month of November we celebrate thankfulness for what we have.

NOW, THEREFORE we, the Chapel Hill Mayor and Town Council do hereby proclaim November 20, 2025, as

Care to Share Day

in the Town of Chapel Hill and encourage everyone who is able to help individuals and families in our community maintain access to clean water and sewer by supporting Orange Water and Sewer Authority's Care to Share program

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF
CHAPEL HILL, ON THIS THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF
NOVEMBER IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE.

