

WHEREAS; flooding is one of Wisconsin’s top climate risks, with many communities experiencing significant flooding in recent years, which has negatively impacted homeowners, businesses, renters, and entire communities; and

WHEREAS; last August, severe storms and record rainfall amounts caused flooding, structural damage, evacuations, and power outages throughout Wisconsin, and according to the National Centers for Environmental Information, an area of Northwest Milwaukee saw over 14 inches of rainfall in under 24 hours, surpassing the state’s previous 24-hour precipitation record of almost 12 inches; and

WHEREAS; according to the Wisconsin Policy Forum, current projections show a substantially increased likelihood of days with heavy rains over the next 20 years throughout most of the state, making spikes in property damage more likely to occur in the future; and

WHEREAS; as little as one inch of water in a home or business can cause approximately \$25,000 of damage, which is an out-of-pocket cost most homeowners, renters, or small business owners cannot afford; and

WHEREAS; risk mitigation for flooding can include innovative stormwater management, wetland restoration, green infrastructure, and more, and Wisconsinites can mitigate risks by protecting their finances from flood-damaging risks with proper insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS; standard homeowners and renters insurance policies do not cover flood damage, leaving many unprotected, but flood insurance is available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s National Flood Insurance Program in participating communities across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; while flood insurance can cover buildings, the contents of buildings, or a combination of both, making it uniquely able to ensure that individuals are not negatively financially impacted as a result of having their possessions or a structure damaged in the wake of river, lake, or bay overflows, storm surges, heavy downpours, mudflows, or snow melts, over 2 million Wisconsin properties are not covered by a flood insurance policy; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin recognizes that homeowners, renters, and business owners can benefit from considering flood insurance, especially as climate change contributes to an increased risk of flooding, and joins the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in encouraging individuals across the state to assess their risk for flood damage this spring and take the necessary steps to keep their homes and businesses protected;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim February 1 through 7 2026 as

FLOOD INSURANCE AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 16th day of January 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State