

WHEREAS; according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), approximately 70 percent of Wisconsinites get their drinking water from groundwater supplies; and

WHEREAS; clean groundwater is a critical and valuable resource for the vitality of Wisconsin's natural resources, such as streams, lakes, and reservoirs, as well as the state's robust agricultural industry, economy, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS; while groundwater is abundant in Wisconsin, there are specific areas of the state where the quantity and quality of available groundwater do not meet local demand; and

WHEREAS; protecting source water—rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater—from pollutants is the first line of defense in protecting Wisconsinites' water supply, and increased awareness and protection of these sources will reduce harmful health risks and costly maintenance; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Groundwater Coordinating Council, alongside the National Groundwater Association, facilitates and provides advice on groundwater policy, management, and conservation and remains a reliable source of information on groundwater safety; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin remains committed to fighting for greater protections for groundwater standards in the state and working to get PFAS, lead, and other harmful contaminants out of the state's water supply, as well as addressing growing threats such as extreme weather events brought on by climate change that can impact groundwater, such as flooding and drought; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the DNR in reaffirming its commitment to protecting and conserving groundwater across the state and working to ensure all Wisconsinites can trust the water coming from their tap is safe, healthy, and free of harmful contaminants;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim March 10 through 16 2024 as

NATIONAL GROUNDWATER 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 4th day of March 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State