

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's star-filled skies are a part of the state's natural heritage, and light pollution, which refers to excessive artificial light that brightens the night sky through glare, light trespass, sky glow, or overlighting, is a threat to the state's natural night environment; and

WHEREAS; Door County, in particular, is known for its dark skies, Milky Way views, opportunities to catch the aurora borealis, and diverse nocturnal and diurnal wildlife species, plants, and insects, which are all jeopardized by increasing light pollution; and

WHEREAS; the experience of standing beneath a dark, star-filled night sky can inspire feelings of wonder and awe and may even encourage interest in science and nature, particularly in young people; and

WHEREAS; Newport State Park at the far end of the Door Peninsula was designated as Wisconsin's first Dark Sky Park by the International Dark-Sky Association, now DarkSky International, in 2017 in recognition of its adherence to dark sky principles; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated organizations and vested individuals in Door County and across the state in celebrating the night sky, raising awareness of light pollution, and promoting the use of environmentally responsible lighting around the world; and

WHEREAS; this year, International Dark Sky Week concludes on April 8, the day of the total solar eclipse across the United States, and while Wisconsin is not on the path of totality, the partial eclipse will be seen throughout the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim April 2 through 8 2024 as

INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY 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 26th day of March 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State