

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is proud to be home to many stunning state parks, forests, and trails, 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, more than 15,000 lakes, over 800 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, several national park sites and trails, and countless recreation areas, local parks, and green spaces; and

WHEREAS; whether it’s hunting and fishing, boating and paddling, or snowboarding and skiing, outdoor recreation is a fundamental part of the state’s culture and heritage across all seasons, improving quality of life, drawing visitors from all over the world, supporting tens of thousands of jobs, and serving as a major economic driver for communities across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; contributing a record-breaking \$12 billion to the state’s gross domestic product in 2024, a 3.8 percent increase over the previous record-breaking year in 2023, Wisconsin’s outdoor recreation industry is a top marketable driver of tourism in the state and a major economic driver for local communities, directly supporting local businesses and over 100,000 jobs across various sectors; and

WHEREAS; since its inception in 2019, the Wisconsin Office of Outdoor Recreation has proven to be an important resource for residents and visitors, federal, state, and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries, recreationists and outdoor enthusiasts, businesses, and other partners to connect the dots to bolster outdoor recreation in the state and make outdoor recreation opportunities more accessible for all to enjoy; and

WHEREAS; enjoyment of the great outdoors provides all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to reflect on the state’s proud history of conservation and environmental stewardship and to renew the state’s shared commitment to protecting Wisconsin’s vast and valuable natural resources; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin celebrates the long-standing partnerships that help make Wisconsin’s outdoor recreation industry the best it can be, encourages folks and families to get outside and explore, and commits to ensuring outdoor recreation in the state thrives for years and generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 2026 as

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

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 29th day of May 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State