

WHEREAS; according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Wisconsin boasts more than 15,000 inland freshwater lakes and approximately 800 miles of Great Lakes shoreline; and

WHEREAS; lakes and reservoirs are among the state's most valuable natural resources, providing drinking water, irrigation, food, energy, scenic beauty, and recreation opportunities to communities across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin lakes are home to abundant wildlife and biodiverse ecosystems, and their health is essential to the nourishment of aquatic communities and the prosperity of neighboring terrestrial species and transitional wetland areas; and

WHEREAS; these bodies of water improve quality of life for folks across Wisconsin and are fundamental to our collective identity as Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; we recognize the need to deploy strategic and data-informed conservation efforts to help mitigate the effects of climate change and protect lakes and reservoirs for future generations; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the DNR and the more than 600 organizations and thousands of volunteers dedicated to the stewardship of Wisconsin lakes in promoting the preservation of the natural environment for the benefit of all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim July 2023 as

LAKES APPRECIATION 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 30th day of June 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State