

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has long been known for its bountiful natural resources, which include 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, approximately 800 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, more than 15,000 inland freshwater lakes, five million acres of wetlands, and 1.2 quadrillion gallons of groundwater; and

WHEREAS; water is among Wisconsin's most valuable resources and ensuring its excellence is essential to the health, safety, and quality of life of folks across the state; and

WHEREAS; the state is committed to protecting Wisconsin's navigational and recreational waters, investing in conservation, and working to ensure that every Wisconsinite is able to drink straight from their tap without fear of contamination; and

WHEREAS; in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), 2019 was declared the Year of Clean Drinking Water in Wisconsin, prompting numerous actions over the past four years to improve water quality across the state, including utilizing state and federal resources to assist communities with replacing lead service lines and sampling municipal water supplies for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), along with the development of Wisconsin's first enforceable statewide standards for surface water and public drinking waters to protect Wisconsinites from contaminants such as PFAS and nitrates; and

WHEREAS; these efforts continue with the signing of the 2023-25 biennial budget this year, which includes support for the state's targeted runoff management and municipal flood control programs, the cleanup of contaminated private wells, and a \$125 million in addressing and preventing PFAS contamination statewide; and

WHEREAS; despite these actions and advances in water quality, ongoing efforts are necessary as safe and reliable drinking water continues to be a concern for many across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the DNR in reaffirming its commitment to making meaningful investments in water infrastructure, taking proactive measures to prevent water pollution and to remedy existing contamination, and ensuring the highest quality of water in communities across the state;

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

NATIONAL WATER QUALITY 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 21st day of July 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State