

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; polluted urban and suburban stormwater runoff is a major source of pollutants in the navigable waters of the United States and Wisconsin as it flows, untreated directly into our waters, such as sediments, road salt, automotive chemicals, litter and debris, household chemicals, bacteria, nutrients, and yard and pet waste; and

WHEREAS; while the Clean Water Act of 1972 prohibits the discharge of any pollutant to navigable waters of the United States unless authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency, all too often, little is done to prevent contamination from stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS; polluted stormwater runoff that is discharged into rivers, lakes, streams, and other waterways can result in the death of wildlife, destruction of vital ecosystems, contamination of drinking water resources, disruption of recreational activity, and a threat to public health; and

WHEREAS; it is imperative that through education, safe chemical practices, and proper disposal of waste, Wisconsinites be aware of how to prevent pollutants from entering stormwater runoff from roadways, homes, and businesses; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Stormwater Collaborative and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in reaffirming its commitment to preventing and addressing water contamination and working to guarantee safe, clean, and pollutant-free water across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim August 5 through 13 2023 as

WISCONSIN STORMWATER 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 21st day of July 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State