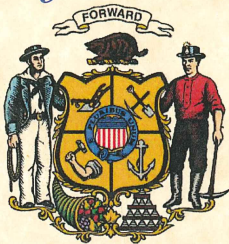


STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; World Wetlands Day is observed each year on February 2nd, in recognition of the 1971 signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, which provides a framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's diverse wetland landscapes include marshes, sedge meadows, forested wetlands, shrub thickets, bogs and fens, ridge-and-swale, and interdunal wetlands; and

WHEREAS; five Wisconsin wetlands have been designated as Wetlands of International Importance by the International Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: Horicon Marsh, Kakagon/Bad River Sloughs, Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands, Chiwaukee Illinois Beach Lake Plain, and Upper Mississippi River Floodplain Wetlands; and

WHEREAS; wetlands maintain the health of our surface and drinking water and help to mitigate the effects of climate change by filtering water before it enters rivers, lakes, and streams, recharging groundwater supplies, and serving as a source of carbon sequestration by transferring carbon dioxide from the atmosphere into soil organic matter; and

WHEREAS; wetlands provide natural flood management and water storage in response to more frequent and extreme floods and droughts, thereby protecting public and private infrastructure and supporting the economic stability of our communities; and

WHEREAS; hunting, fishing, hiking, paddling, photography, and wildlife watching on wetlands support our outdoor recreation and tourism economies and improve the quality of life of Wisconsinites of all ages; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has lost roughly half of its original ten million acres of wetlands, elevating the importance of restoring wetlands back onto the landscape and protecting and caring for the remaining five million acres; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's waters, wildlife, and people need healthy wetlands, as wetlands are a crucial habitat for more than 75 percent of Wisconsin's wildlife species;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim February 2, 2020, as

WISCONSIN WETLANDS DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I recommend this observance to all our citizens.

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 28th day of January 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Evers".

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Douglas La Follette".
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State