

WHEREAS; as Wisconsinites, we pride ourselves on our bountiful natural resources, which include 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, approximately 1,000 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 we recognize that ensuring its excellence is essential to the health, safety, and quality of life of folks across our state; and

WHEREAS; we are committed to protecting our 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 three years to improve water quality in our 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 our state's first enforceable statewide standards for surface water and public drinking waters to protect Wisconsinites from contaminants such as PFAS and nitrates; and

WHEREAS; with the signing of the 2021-23 biennial budget last year, our commitment to improving our state's water quality has continued by supporting the University of Wisconsin System's Freshwater Collaborative and investing in producer-led watershed protection grants and critical water and runoff management programs; and

WHEREAS; despite these actions and advances in water quality, we recognize that ongoing efforts are necessary as safe and reliable drinking water continues to be a concern for many in our state; 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 throughout our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim August 2022 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State