

WHEREAS; climate change is causing unprecedented drought conditions and widespread flooding in regions throughout the United States, including in Wisconsin, which puts pressure on water systems that are not equipped to manage such extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS; the nation's aging water infrastructure and lack of reliable revenue to maintain or upgrade water systems has resulted in water utilities around the country that are inadequate for current water needs; and

WHEREAS; different states face a variety of different water challenges, but what impacts one state impacts all, making it necessary for solutions to strengthen drinking water and wastewater systems to both be locally driven and prioritize reinvestment in water systems on the national level; and

WHEREAS; with more than 15,000 lakes, approximately 1,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, around 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, and 5 million acres of wetlands, freshwater is one of Wisconsin's most valuable natural resources; and

WHEREAS; "Imagine a Day Without Water" is a national campaign dedicated to highlighting the value of water and the critical importance of understanding where and how water is sourced, how it is used, and where it goes; and

WHEREAS; water is essential to the quality of life, health, and safety of all Wisconsinites, as well as to the economic viability and vitality of the state, and on this occasion, Wisconsinites are encouraged to join people across the country in imagining a day without water and the dire consequences that would have, from the inability to perform daily tasks like showering, using the toilet, washing dishes, and cleaning clothes, to the inability of institutions like hospitals, fire departments, factories, and farms to provide basic, essential services in society; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and its many partners in reaffirming its commitment to protecting water and conserving it for future generations by furthering groundwater research, supporting efforts to replace lead service lines, addressing drinking water contamination, educating the public on the importance of water conservation, and investing in the state's water infrastructure, including through funding from the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, among many other initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 20 2022 as

“IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT WATER” DAY

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 7th day of October 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State