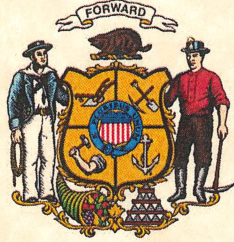


STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; Smokey Bear has taught people about their role in protecting forests from human-caused wildfires since 1944;

WHEREAS; wildfires pose a serious and increasing threat to public safety, and can cause devastating damage to community and individual health, property, and our state and natural resources; and

WHEREAS; the United States Fire Administration estimates that there were approximately 1,319,500 fires in the United States in 2017, killing 3,400 people and costing the United States \$23 billion in damage; and

WHEREAS; people cause more than 98% of all wildfires in Wisconsin, but understanding what commonly causes fires and taking preventative action can greatly decrease your chances of causing or contributing to a wildfire; and

WHEREAS; Smokey's iconic message – "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires" – continues to play an important role in protecting the 17.1 million acres of forests in Wisconsin today; and

WHEREAS; Smokey has contributed significantly to public education, health, and safety for the past 75 years, and he has many more years of service ahead of him;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim August 9, 2019, as

SMOKEY BEAR'S 75th BIRTHDAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend 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 24th day of July 2019.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State