

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN
I, Rick Snyder, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim
June 4 - 12, 2016

GREAT LAKES AND FRESH WATER WEEK

WHEREAS, Michigan is home to more than 11,000 inland lakes, 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, 6.5 million acres of wetlands, 3,200 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, and vast groundwater resources; and,

WHEREAS, water is the state's most significant resource, providing unmatched recreational opportunities, supplying drinking water resources, vital to the health of our ecosystems, and providing our state with economic and social benefits such as recreation, tourism, fishing, manufacturing, and agriculture; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan waterways serve as the great connectors, linking our wetlands and streams to the vast ecosystems of the Great Lakes and beyond, and connecting Michiganders to the world through commerce, industry, and recreation; and,

WHEREAS, water links our communities to environments beyond our borders, and Michigan has led in protecting our Great Lakes from aquatic invasive species that spread through ballast water, canals and waterways, organisms in trade, and recreational activity; and,

WHEREAS, water literacy in schools coupled with community awareness of our valuable water resources will aid in the wide use and management of water conservation and support further unity among government, environmental groups, businesses, and residents all working toward shared goals; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan seeks to manage its surface water and groundwater and the Great Lakes in a collaborative manner with local, regional, state, tribal, federal, and provincial partners; and,

WHEREAS, during this week, we encourage Michiganders to learn more about the impact of invasive species in the Great Lakes and other current issues in an effort to protect and preserve water resources for Michigan's future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Snyder, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 4, through Sunday, June 12, 2016, as Great Lakes and Fresh Water Week in Michigan.