STATE OF MICHIGAN

Executive Office

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, do hereby proclaim the week of June 7, 2010,

No Child Left Inside Week

Whereas June is traditionally a transition month when many children complete their school year and have significantly more time to spend outdoors; and,

Whereas, Research has shown that outdoor play provides significant physical and mental health benefits and that students learning in an outdoor setting have increased retention of knowledge; and,

Whereas, Michigan's abundance of natural resources – its forests, grasslands, rivers, lakes, dunes, wetlands, and the great lakes – provides a wealth of outdoor recreation opportunities; and,

Whereas, Children growing up in Michigan today are spending far less time in the outdoors than any previous generation; and,

Whereas, Early childhood experience with nature has been shown to be a major influencing factor in nurturing a lifestyle of outdoor participation and conservation activism; and,

Whereas, Many local, community, state and national park lands provide programming to engage kids in outdoor recreation, including the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Free Fishing weekend, State Park Explorers and Interpretive programs and the Urban Outreach program; and,

Whereas, The Michigan No Child Left Inside Coalition – a partnership of state and federal agencies and private organizations in Michigan – continues to identify and support programs and initiatives to get kids back outdoors;

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, governor of the state of Michigan, in support of reconnecting children to nature, do hereby proclaim the week of June 7, 2010, No Child Left Inside Week in Michigan. Residents of this state are urged to utilize this week as the first step to encourage Michigan's children to be active in our great outdoors.

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor