



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a source of inspiration, scientific discovery, and quiet reflection; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota’s identity is deeply connected to its natural landscapes, from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park to its forests, prairies, and lakes, where natural darkness remains an essential part of the environment; and
- WHEREAS: Light pollution has scientifically established economic, environmental, and public health consequences, including energy waste, increased carbon emissions, disruption to ecosystems, and impacts on human circadian rhythms and nighttime safety; and
- WHEREAS: As a major migratory bird flyway and home to countless pollinators and nocturnal species, Minnesota plays a critical role in protecting wildlife that depends on natural darkness for navigation, feeding, and survival; and
- WHEREAS: Responsible outdoor lighting practices, including properly shielded fixtures, reduced glare, appropriate brightness, and thoughtful use of headlights and nighttime illumination, can preserve visibility, protect ecosystems, reduce energy waste, and improve safety for all residents; and
- WHEREAS: Protecting natural darkness supports tourism, local economies, and the pride Minnesotans take in safeguarding the lands and waters that define our state; and
- WHEREAS: Dark Sky Week aims to raise awareness of light pollution and provide education, resources, and practical solutions to communities across Minnesota.

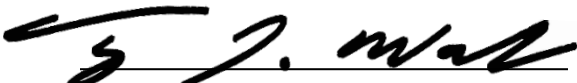
NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim April 13-20, 2026, as:

DARK SKY WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 26th day of March.




GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE