



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: October 18, 2022, marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Clean Water Act, which aims to prevent, reduce, and eliminate pollution in the waters of the United States in order to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters; and

WHEREAS: This landmark environmental legislation has been central to the important progress that Minnesota has made in improving the quality and health of our rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and watersheds; and

WHEREAS: The name of our state comes from the Dakota name for this region, Mni Sota Makoce — “the land where the waters reflect the clouds” — and Minnesota’s 11 federally recognized tribal nations are original stewards of this land and essential, long-standing partners in protecting and improving water quality; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota’s abundant lakes, rivers, and streams provide its residents with clean drinking water and year-round recreational opportunities that greatly enhance their quality of life and support healthy stands of wild rice, aquatic species, and wildlife; and

WHEREAS: Clean water plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of Minnesota by supporting a robust tourism industry, providing a sustainable fishing industry, and sustaining our industrial and agricultural sectors; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota voters in 2008 supported creating the Clean Water Fund to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams, protect groundwater from degradation, and protect drinking water sources; and

WHEREAS: This work relies on continued collaboration between federal, state, tribal, and local governments, to protect and improve our waterways; and

WHEREAS: In the last 50 years, the health of our lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands have dramatically improved for many pollutants.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim October 2022 as:

## MONTH OF CLEAN WATER

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 17<sup>th</sup> day of October.

Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE