



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

September 7, 2019

as
GREAT LAKES – ST. LAWRENCE APPRECIATION DAY

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes system, including Lake Erie, Lake Huron, Lake Ontario, Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, and the St. Lawrence River, is a globally significant resource and ecosystem that holds 21 percent of the world's surface freshwater; and,

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River region provides drinking water to more than 48 million Americans and Canadians; and,

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes system is an economic powerhouse for the region, supporting industries such as shipping, agriculture, technology, manufacturing, recreation, and tourism; and,

WHEREAS, the waters and shoreline of the Great Lakes system provide exceptional habitat for thousands of species of native mammals, birds, amphibians, fish, and plants; and,

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes basin is home to numerous beaches, parks, forests, harbors, marinas, piers, lighthouses, boardwalks, and islands that provide outdoor recreation and more; and,

WHEREAS, an abundant supply of clean, affordable water is essential to support a healthy population, a thriving economy, and a well-functioning ecosystem; and,

WHEREAS, people in Michigan greatly value the opportunity to live, work, and play in areas near waters that are vibrant, beautiful, and life-sustaining; and,

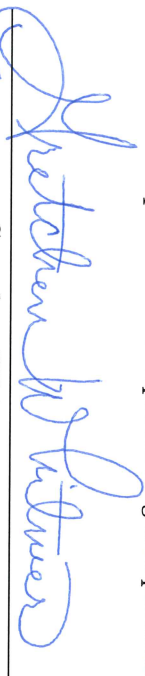
WHEREAS, the region's environment, economy, and people rely on the clean, healthy waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River; and,

WHEREAS, right now, the Great Lakes states and providences are facing dangerous threats to the fresh water and public health; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan must be a leader in being better stewards of this precious resource, ensuring every community has clean and affordable drinking water, free from toxic contamination, pollution, and invasive species; and,

WHEREAS, on this day I encourage people to take the time to ask your local, state, and federal leaders to adopt an agenda to protect the Great Lakes and invest in drinking water and marine infrastructure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim September 7, 2019, as Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Appreciation Day in Michigan and urge all people in our state to appreciate the vital importance of these lakes and take responsibilities in preserving and protecting them.

A blue ink signature of Gretchen Whitmer, written in a cursive style.

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

