

## **Gov. Burgum declares May 5-11 Drinking Water Week in North Dakota**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Gov. Burgum has proclaimed May 5 through May 11 as Drinking Water Week in North Dakota, underscoring the significance of safe drinking water and acknowledging the dedicated efforts of local water professionals in maintaining exemplary compliance rates with drinking water standards.

This year's Drinking Water Week coincides with the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Enacted in 1974, the SDWA stands as the primary federal legislation aimed at protecting public health by implementing rigorous standards for drinking water quality. Over the past five decades, the SDWA established regulations for more than 90 contaminants in drinking water. Other improvements credited to the SDWA include facilitating funding to support enhancements in public water systems and fostering heightened public awareness about drinking water issues. As North Dakota looks ahead to advancing drinking water quality, recognition is given to all those who work to address emerging challenges.

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality is responsible for implementing the SDWA in North Dakota. Through collective efforts involving environmental scientists, water system operators, infrastructure maintenance personnel, and other water professionals who work around the clock to ensure safe tap water is available when needed. "More than 90 percent of all North Dakotans receive drinking water from 307 community and rural drinking water systems statewide," said David Bruschwein, director of the Division of Municipal Facilities. "The department works with local communities and water systems to ensure drinking water meets all health-based standards." Organizations involved in promoting Drinking Water Week include the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association, the North Dakota Section of the American Water Works Association, the North Dakota Water and Pollution Control Conference, the North Dakota Chapter of the American Public Works Association, and the North Dakota Water Environment Association.

For additional information on Drinking Water Week, visit <https://drinktap.org/>. The proclamation is available at [www.governor.nd.gov/proclamations](http://www.governor.nd.gov/proclamations).

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### DRINKING WATER WEEK MAY 5-11, 2024

WHEREAS, 2024 is the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

WHEREAS, water is our most valuable natural resource; and

WHEREAS, drinking water serves a vital role in daily life, serving an essential purpose to health, hydration and hygiene needs for the quality of life North Dakota citizens enjoy; and

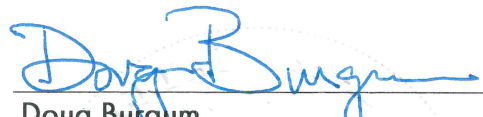
WHEREAS, North Dakota is grateful for the hard work performed by the entire water sector, such as designing capital projects, operators ensuring the safety and quality of drinking water or a member of a pipe crew maintaining the infrastructure communities rely on to transport high-quality drinking water from its source to consumers' taps; and

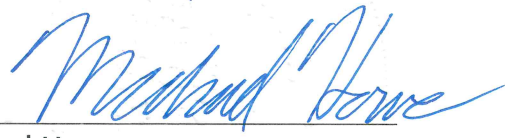
WHEREAS, North Dakota citizens are all stewards of the water infrastructure upon which current and future generations depend; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota citizens are called upon to help protect our source waters from pollution, practice water conservation and get involved with their water by familiarizing themselves with it.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
May 5-11, 2024, **DRINKING WATER WEEK** in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE