

**NEWS** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 8, 2024

## **Governor Burgum proclaims July, Lakes Appreciation Month**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor Doug Burgum has proclaimed July Lakes Appreciation Month in North Dakota. While North Dakota is often associated with the Badlands, wheat fields, and oil wells, it is also home to approximately 4,500 lakes, with 413 accessible to the public.

North Dakota lakes offer prime boating, fishing, camping, and swimming locations. Summer lake festivities and fishing derbies attract in-state and out-of-state recreational enthusiasts.

Although most state residents rely on groundwater or river sources for drinking water, about 67,000 North Dakotans depend on lakes as their drinking water source.

As you head out to your favorite lake for a fishing trip, a camping weekend, or just a leisurely boat ride, remember to keep it free from Aquatic Nuisance Species. Thoroughly rinse your watercraft before and after entering any body of water, and remember to “Pack Out what you Pack In” to keep shorelines clean.

To commemorate Lakes Appreciation Month, consider leading or taking part in activities such as organizing a lake cleanup project, hosting a biking or hiking event at a local lake, or volunteering at a local lake festival.

Embark on a summer adventure and help preserve North Dakota’s hidden treasures for future generations!

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### **For more information contact:**

Joshua Wert  
Watershed Management Program  
4201 Normandy St. | Bismarck, ND 58503-1324  
PHONE: 701-328-5014 | EMAIL: [jewert@nd.gov](mailto:jewert@nd.gov)

[www.deq.nd.gov](http://www.deq.nd.gov)

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# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH

JULY 2024

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to more than 400 bodies of water in every corner of the state with breathtaking lakes and reservoirs, including Lake Sakakawea, one of the country's largest reservoirs, with 1,530 miles of shoreline, all of which provide readily accessible fishing and water recreation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, lakes and reservoirs are essential water storage facilities; and

WHEREAS, lakes are an important part of North Dakota's way of life and the state's environment; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's lakes and reservoirs support healthy, outdoor activity and contribute to healthy, vibrant communities across the state; and

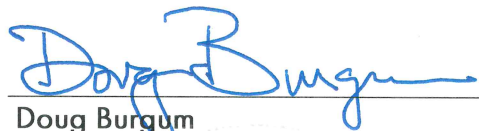
WHEREAS, lakes are sources of recreation, scenic beauty and habitats for wildlife; and


WHEREAS, North Dakota's lakes are a valuable economic resource for businesses, tourism, fisheries and municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, many organizations and volunteers have demonstrated the importance of protecting North Dakota's lakes by actively monitoring their water quality.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
July 2024, LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE