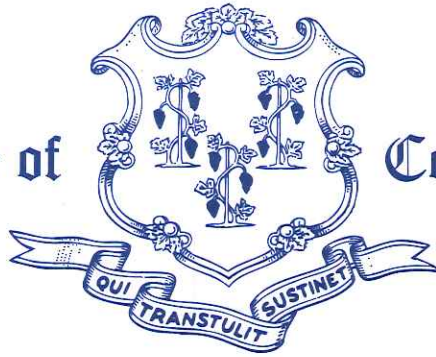


State of Connecticut



By His Excellency Dannel P. Malloy, Governor: an
Official Statement

WHEREAS, Connecticut's 65 state parks provide outstanding opportunities for safe and healthy fun in the Great Outdoors enjoying our natural splendors in the company of family and in the company of old and new friends; and

WHEREAS, our kids today spend an average of ten hours a day in front of a screen and outdoor activity is touted by many leading health organizations as a remedy to the adverse effects caused by our increasing inactivity; and

WHEREAS, diverse Great Outdoors Month® events including National Trails Day®, National Get Outdoors Day, The Great Outdoors Month® National Day of Service, the Great American Campout®, Kids to Parks™ Day and more help connect citizens of all ages to healthy fun outdoors; and

WHEREAS, other events during Great Outdoors Month® such as National Fishing and Boating Week, National Marina Day and Get Into Your Sanctuary Days provide all of us, especially our children, with exciting opportunities for recreation on the great waters of our state; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact of outdoor recreation is both large and growing nationally, exceeding \$650 billion in annual expenditures, and in our state, where it is estimated at \$10.7 billion and supports some 102,000 jobs; and

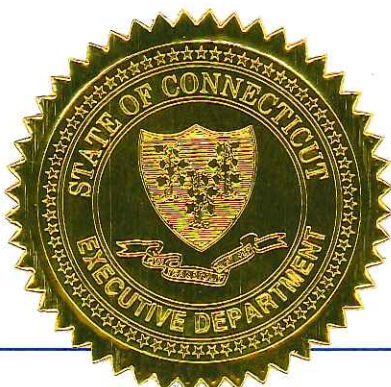
WHEREAS, Connecticut's 65 state parks, two national park units and more attract millions of visitors each year and reflect every facet of our state's rich natural and cultural history; and

WHEREAS, enjoyment of our Great Outdoors allows us to celebrate the commitment of our state to conserve and protect our air, our water, our wildlife, and our lands and contribute to conservation efforts through various licenses, taxes and fees; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month® allows us to celebrate the partnership of federal, state and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries, and recreationists which makes outdoor recreation opportunities available, and adds new and needed features such as improved trails through the Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund; now

THEREFORE, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2017 as

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH®
in the State of Connecticut.




GOVERNOR