



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is blessed with exceptional scenic beauty and natural ecosystems, from the vistas of the Highlands and the tranquil flow of our rivers and streams, to the majestic coastline and vibrant shore communities; and

WHEREAS, biking, swimming, hiking, climbing, fishing, hunting, boating and many more activities help us enjoy the physical and mental benefits of outdoor recreations; and

WHEREAS, enjoyment of the great outdoors allows us to celebrate New Jersey's commitment to conserve and protect our air, water, wildlife and lands and contribute to conservation efforts through active participation and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, the countless historic sites across New Jersey that tell the story of our State, from the earliest days of human settlement to the present day, also provide opportunities to enjoy the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's state parks, forests, historic sites, wildlife management areas and other public lands offer a wide variety of affordable opportunities for our residents to get outside to watch wildlife, climb mountains, learn about nature, walk on trails or through a historic village, boat on rivers, canoe, fish, camp and swim, as well as experience history; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is offering more than 100 events and programs in State Parks, Forests, Wildlife Management Areas and Historic Sites that will invite individuals and families outdoors to participate in a wide variety of activities such as hiking, fishing, astronomy, kayaking and historical reenactments; and

WHEREAS, outdoor enthusiasts and recreationists are among the most active volunteers in the State of New Jersey, maintaining trails, organizing outdoor programs and helping to restore natural habitats; and

WHEREAS, the contribution from outdoor recreation to the State's economic well-being is close to \$18 billion annually and growing, and directly supports more than 150,000 jobs in New Jersey, with more than 2 million residents and visitors hunting, fishing and viewing wildlife in the State; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month allows us to celebrate the partnership of federal, state and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries and the people of New Jersey, which help make many diverse outdoor recreation opportunities available throughout the Garden State;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

JUNE 2017
AS
GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

in New Jersey and encourage all residents to visit www.niparksandforests.com for information about nature-themed activities throughout the State.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this eighteenth day of May in the year two thousand seventeen, the two hundred forty-first year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR