

Conservation Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Minnesota is the land of 10,000 lakes; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota has over 2.6 million anglers and boaters generating 7.3 billion dollars toward our economy; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota will celebrate the time-honored traditions of the annual Minnesota Fishing Opener on May 9th
- WHEREAS: Invasive species pose a serious threat to Minnesota lakes and streams; and outdoor economy
- WHEREAS: The Clean Drain Dry Initiative of Wildlife Forever, a non-profit conservation organization based in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, coordinates public outreach and education to stop the spread of invasive species; and
- WHEREAS: The Clean Drain Dry Initiative and coalition of partners urges everyone to: **CLEAN** all watercraft and related equipment and remove any visible plants, animals, and sediment onsite; **DRAIN** all water from the watercraft and related equipment after exiting the water; and **DRY** everything for 5 days before entering different waters; and
- WHEREAS: Partners in conservation who are working collaboratively to halt the invasive species include the fishing and boating industry, Minnesota counties, Minnesota lakes associations, nongovernmental organizations, tribal corporations, federal and state agencies, tourism bureaus and businesses; and
- WHEREAS: The best management practices to change behavior and protect Minnesota's outdoor heritage is Clean. Drain. Dry.
- WHEREAS: Fishing, boating and outdoor recreation are vital activities to the physical and mental health of the public and can be practiced safely and responsibly while Social Distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Join us in Celebrating Saturday, May 9, 2020, as Minnesota:

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY. DAY

Babe Winkleman Productions, B.A.S.S., CD3, Fishing League Worldwide, Linder Media, Majk Solutions, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, National Marine Manufacturer Association, National Professional Angler Association, Outdoor Sportsman's Group, Pennaz Multimedia, Rapala, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, Wildlife Forever, Wired2Fish.