

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, citizens of South Dakota recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic-related activities cause good physical and mental health and enhance the quality of life for all people; and,

*Whereas*, the citizens of South Dakota understand the essential role that education regarding the topic of water safety plays in preventing drownings and recreational water-related injuries; and,

*Whereas*, the citizens of South Dakota are aware of the contributions made by the recreational water industry, as represented by the organizations involved in the National Water Safety Month Coalition in developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas, and related activities providing healthy places to recreate, learn and grow, build self-esteem, confidence and sense of self-worth which contributes to the quality of life in our community; and,

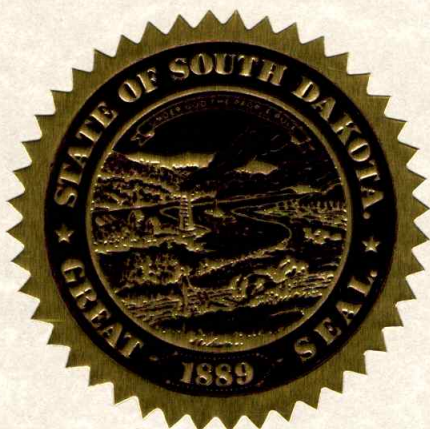
*Whereas*, the citizens of South Dakota recognize the ongoing efforts and commitments to educate the public on pool and spa safety issues and initiatives by the pool, spa, waterpark, recreation and parks industries; and,

*Whereas*, the citizens of South Dakota understand the vital importance of communicating Water Safety rules and programs to families and individuals of all ages, whether owners of private pools, users of public swimming facilities, or visitors to waterparks:

*Now, Therefore, I, Larry Rhoden*, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2026, as

*National Water Safety Month*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

*Larry Rhoden*

Larry Rhoden, Governor

**Attest:**

*Monae L. Johnson*

Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State