

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

As we head into the warmer weather months, Texans are undoubtedly eager to get outdoors and enjoy every activity our beautiful state has to offer. From swimming and boating in our lakes and rivers to splashing and playing in water parks and pools, Texans and tourists alike are drawn to the many exceptional opportunities for water recreation in the Lone Star State during the summer. While water safety should be a priority year-round, the summer months are a particularly important time to ensure we are all aware of how to keep ourselves and our families safe both in and around water.

Texans can become more water-aware while still enjoying all types of water activities. It is crucial we teach our younger generations the benefits of water safety; 1 in 5 people who die from drowning are children ages 14 and younger. Education on the topic of water safety is essential in preventing drownings and recreational water-related injuries. Young Texans can learn how to make water safety a priority by participating in swim lessons to develop their swimming skills, and adults can help by educating themselves and their young loved ones about proper water safety, how to handle emergency situations, and the importance of following water safety rules, guidelines, and tips. While these measures are a solid foundation to practicing better water safety, we should always strive to be more vigilant when it comes to protecting ourselves and our families as we enjoy the beautiful outdoors and the many benefits of swimming and water recreation.

Every year, when water activity dramatically increases, the month of May is set aside to highlight the importance of water awareness and safety through public service announcements and easy-to-access water safety materials.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to become better educated about water safety and for parents to help their children become safe swimmers. By putting safety first, and always being water-aware, we can all have more fun as we relax and spend time outdoors with our families and friends this summer.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 2022 to be

Water Safety Month

in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 14th day of April, 2022.

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