



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee is recognized as one of the leading producers of flowering dogwoods in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, nurseries in the State of Tennessee produce a great many dogwoods for commercial sale; and

**WHEREAS**, more new dogwood varieties have been developed and named in Franklin County, Tennessee than in any other singular place in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the first red dogwood cultivar, Cherokee Chief, was cultivated and named in Franklin County, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, the dogwood is a part of Tennessee history and featured at numerous Tennessee historic sites including Andrew Jackson's Hermitage, Carnton Plantation, Centennial Park, Cheekwood, and Warner Parks; and

**WHEREAS**, Cheekwood, located in Nashville, Tennessee, has an acclaimed dogwood (*Cornus* spp.) collection, holding the distinction as the first and only Nationally Accredited Collection of *Cornus*, recognized by the Plant Collections Network of the American Public Garden Association;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 21, 2018 as

*Tennessee Dogwood Day*

and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this second day of March, 2018.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Rye*

Secretary of State