



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee is blessed with outstanding opportunities to participate in safe and healthy fun in our Great Outdoors in the company of family and in the company of old and new friends; and

**WHEREAS**, diverse Great Outdoors Month® events, including American Hiking Society's National Trails Day®, National Get Outdoors Day, the Great Outdoors Day of Service, the Great American Campout®, Kids to Parks Day, Bike Travel Weekend and more, help introduce citizens of all ages to healthy fun outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, other events during Great Outdoors Month®, such as National Fishing and Boating Week, National Marina Day and more, provide all of us, especially our children, with exciting opportunities for recreation on the great waters of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic impact of outdoor recreation is both large and growing nationally, where it produces \$734 billion in gross output and accounts for 2.2% of GDP according to the federal government. In our state alone, it is responsible for \$21.6 billion in consumer spending and directly supports some 188,000 jobs according to the Outdoor Industry Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee's state parks, national parks and more attract millions of visitors each year and reflect every facet of our state's rich natural and cultural history; and

**WHEREAS**, enjoyment of our Great Outdoors allows us to celebrate the commitment of our state to conserve and protect our air, our water, our wildlife and our lands and contribute to conservation efforts through various licenses, taxes and fees; and

**WHEREAS**, Great Outdoors Month® allows us to celebrate the partnership of federal, state and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries and recreationists which makes outdoor recreation opportunities available, and adds new and needed features, such as improved trails through the Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 2019 as

*Great Outdoors Month*

in Tennessee 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 fifteenth day of April, 2019.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Scott Dargatzis*

Secretary of State

