



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley has over 41,000 miles of rivers, lakes, and streams; and

WHEREAS, recreation along the Tennessee River system generates almost \$12 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, 13 locks along the 652-mile river provide passage for 25,000-30,000 barges annually, carrying 40-50 million tons of goods; and

WHEREAS, with 300 species of fish, the Tennessee River watershed has been identified as the most biodiverse river in North America; and

WHEREAS, Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful is the first Keep America Beautiful affiliate to focus solely on the health and longevity of a single river; and

WHEREAS, 739 volunteers helped Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful to remove 152,522 pounds of trash and debris in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, Tennessee Valley Authority, and Keep Tennessee Beautiful work to support and enable local organizations to protect the waterways within their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee River brings us together as one watershed community within seven states, including Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful and Keep Tennessee Beautiful serve to raise awareness of the importance of protecting one of our most abundant resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October, 2022 as

Keep the Tennessee River Watershed Beautiful 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 seventeenth day of October, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lu Wengatt".

Secretary of State

