## STATE OF MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT SAINT PAUL



### PROCLAMATION

It is customary at the approach of spring to turn with new interest and admiration toward the forests, lakes, and streams which a beneficent nature has bestowed upon us. But it is not enough to admire and enjoy nature's gifts. As public-spirited citizens, it becomes our duty to do something more constructive toward the conservation and restoration of our essential natural resources.

The disastrous effects of drouth to impair our water resources are vividly in our minds. Recent floods which took hundreds of lives and cost millions of dollars in property damage in other sections of our country, are a forceful reminder of what may happen in periods of excessive rainfall. Both of these phenomena, although they are extremes, emphasize the need of planned conservation for the regulation of our waters in order that they shall serve the most beneficial uses and to avert tragedies caused by indifference and neglect.

Conservation must be given a more prominent place in education, among civic and sportsmen's organizations as well as in our schools. The conservation program now in progress in Minnesota deserves our full support. This program, in addition to its very practical value, is giving employment to thousands of individuals who would otherwise be forced to remain idle.

One week of the year has been set aside for the purpose of bringing the work and the problems of conservation more clearly to the attention of all our people. It is to be hoped that during this week the benefits of forestry, game conservation, water control and the other activities of conservation will be given wide publicity.

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Elmer A. Benson, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby designate April 25th to May 1st inclusive as

#### MINNESOTA CONSERVATION WEEK

and May 7th as

### ARBOR AND BIRD DAY

I urge that schools, churches, and civic groups observe this week with appropriate ceremonies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed this 5th day of April, 1937.

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Attest:

Secretary of State

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