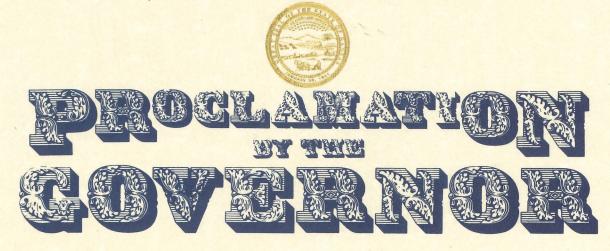
STATE OF KANSAS



TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, parks and recreation professionals and programs are an integral part of Kansas communities throughout this state; and

WHEREAS, Kansas parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our state, ensuring the health of all Kansans, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of state and communities; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our state and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, the people of Kansas recognize the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim July 16th, 2021 as

Park and Recreation Professional Day

in Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka under the Great Seal of the State this 1st day of July, A.D. 2021

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State