



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

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

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

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

WHEREAS, shipments by barge, rather than by rail or truck, saves businesses about \$1 billion each year in transportation of goods, with 50 million tons of goods shipped each year; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley Authority resources the Tennessee River to help provide electricity to an estimated 10 million residents through 153 power companies; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee River watershed has been identified as the most biodiverse river in North America, including 230 species of fish, which is twice that of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful is the first Keep America Beautiful affiliate to focus solely on a river, striving to rally and unify communities along the river to keep the Tennessee River healthy for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, a cleanup, concluding the Keep the Tennessee River Watershed Beautiful Month cleanup series, will be hosted on October 29, 2023 in Decatur, Alabama on Wheeler Lake of the Tennessee River;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 2023, as

Keep the Tennessee River Watershed Beautiful Month

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 23rd day of October 2023.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor