



State of Rhode Island
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION
Water Safety Month

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island is home to an abundance of treasured natural waterways, including oceans, bays, rivers, lakes, ponds, and public swimming areas that provide residents and visitors with recreational opportunities throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Rhode Island recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic-related activities relate to good physical and mental health and enhance the quality of life for all people; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Rhode Island understand the essential role that education regarding the topic of Water Safety plays in preventing drowning and recreational water-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Water Safety Program provides swimming and paddlecraft lessons, first aid training, and safety equipment to expand public water access for communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, promoting boating safety awareness through education, preparedness, and responsible operation of watercraft helps protect all who enjoy Rhode Island's waterways for recreation, fishing, and tourism; and

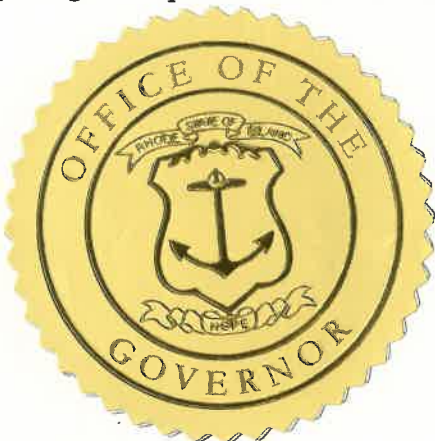
WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's partnership with the Waterman Eco Challenge advances public awareness of water safety, environmental conservation, and healthy outdoor activity through community engagement and education; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Rhode Island are aware of the contributions made by the recreational water industry, as represented by the organizations involved in the National Water Safety Month Coalition in developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas, and related activities providing healthy places to recreate, learn and grow, build self-esteem, confidence, and sense of self-worth which contributes to the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Rhode Island recognize the ongoing efforts and commitments to educate the public on pool and spa safety issues and initiatives by the pool, spa, waterpark, and recreation industries; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Rhode Island understand the vital importance of communicating Water Safety rules and programs to families and individuals of all ages, whether owners of private pools, users of public swimming facilities, or visitors to waterparks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel J. McKee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as *Water Safety Month* in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



Given under my hand and the seal of the Office of the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, this 29th day of May, 2026.

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

Gregg A. Amore
Secretary of State