



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Geography has played a defining role in the settlement, history, and cultural heritage of the State of Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: An understanding of geographical concepts is crucial to maintaining the balance between use of our natural resources, continued economic prosperity, and the general health and well-being of all Minnesotans; and
- WHEREAS: The management, use, and exchange of geographic information are essential for effective decision making by local, state, and federal agencies; and
- WHEREAS: Computerized Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology provides an efficient and effective means for managing geographic information; and
- WHEREAS: There have been widespread and rapid technological advances in hardware, software, mapping, and telecommunications related to the GIS industry; and
- WHEREAS: Extensive efforts are underway in various public and private agencies and organizations throughout the United States and the world to develop, incorporate, and utilize GIS technology; and
- WHEREAS: Coordinating these efforts minimizes duplication, reduces costs, develops standards, and facilitates the sharing and interchange of GIS data and knowledge; and
- WHEREAS: There is a need to promote GIS awareness, education, and technical training among various groups to most appropriately and wisely utilize this rapidly developing technology; and
- WHEREAS: National Geography Awareness Week promotes geographic literacy in schools and to the public, and is recognized and celebrated annually in Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: GIS Technology is an important part of geography awareness; and
- WHEREAS: The national GIS community has declared November 19, 2008, as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, proclaim Wednesday, November 19, 2008, to be:

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 18th day of November in the year two thousand and eight, and of the State the one hundred fiftieth.

Mark Ritchie

SECRETARY OF STATE

Tim Pawlenty
GOVERNOR