

# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, the New York State's richly diverse lands and waters sustain abundant species of plants, trees, and wildlife that enhance our State's air and water quality, contribute to the balance of our ecosystems, support a robust agricultural industry, provide immense recreational opportunities, and add to property values and local economies; and

**Whereas**, a growing environmental concern are harmful invasive species – those that are non-native to a region and which have been introduced to New York State where they continue to spread, adversely affecting the environment, the economy, and even human health; these dangerous species can come from around the world and, as international trade increases, so does the rate at which they are entering our lands and waters, and damaging their quality; and

**Whereas**, invasive species are one of the greatest threats to our State's biodiversity and its bionetwork, causing or contributing to: habitat degradation and loss; extinction of native fish, wildlife, and tree species; decrease in recreational opportunities and income; extensive crop damage, environmental and economic harm, and spread of diseases that endanger humans and livestock; and

**Whereas**, ongoing efforts and investments are being made in New York State, in partnership with private and nonprofit organizations, universities, and local, state, and federal agencies, to reduce the risks of invasive species introductions and the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) to the State's natural resources; and

**Whereas**, water recreationists are encouraged to do their part to protect New York's waters from AIS by cleaning, draining, and drying watercraft and equipment; anglers are likewise reminded to take proactive steps, such as cleaning off fishing tackle, removing aquatic vegetation from rudders, disinfecting boat hulls and water compartments, and properly disposing of bait; and

**Whereas**, increased awareness and understanding about the need to stop the introduction and spread of harmful invasive species are important to the future of New York State, the nation, and the entire world; and

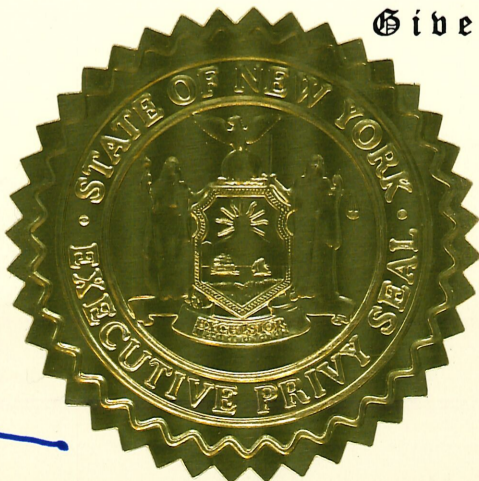
**Whereas**, New Yorkers share a concern for the safety and well-being of our environment, and support initiatives through which we can illustrate our ongoing commitment to our natural resources, lands, and waters; Invasive Species Awareness Week highlights this critical environmental issue during the high season of tourism, boating, camping, and agricultural productivity, and residents and visitors alike are encouraged to learn more about these invasive species and their damaging environmental, societal, and economic impact;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 6 - 12, 2022 as

## INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State and extend appreciation to the agencies, businesses, environmental groups, academic institutions, community organizations, and volunteers that are taking action against the spread of invasive species.

**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this third day  
of June in the year two thousand twenty-two.



*Kathy Hochul*  
Governor

*Karen Persichilli Keogh*

Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh