



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley has over 41,000 miles of rivers, lakes and streams; 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 save businesses about \$1 billion each year in transportation of goods with 50 million tons of goods shipped each year; and

WHEREAS, shoreline property owners contribute \$1 million to local economies annually; 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, 434 volunteers helped Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful to remove 48,319 pounds of trash in 2019 alone; and

WHEREAS, another 41 grassroot organizations rallied 1,333 volunteers to remove an additional 473 tons within the Tennessee River watershed; and

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

WHEREAS, Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful and Keep Alabama Beautiful serve to raise awareness of the importance of protecting our most abundant resource and unifying communities across Tennessee River watershed to take act;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 2020, 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 26th day of October 2020.*

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor