



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, Alabama Impact Crater Discovery Week is a week-long series of educational programs, guided experiences and community events centered around the Wetumpka Impact Crater, one of the best-preserved impact structures in the world; and*

*WHEREAS, the Wetumpka Impact Crater is one of Alabama's most significant natural landmarks, formed by the impact of an asteroid approximately 85 million years ago and recognized as one of the best-preserved impact structures in the United States; and*

*WHEREAS, this extraordinary geological feature has played a vital role in advancing scientific research, contributing to a greater understanding of planetary impacts, Earth's history and the forces that shape our world; and*

*WHEREAS, the Wetumpka Impact Crater holds international scientific importance, drawing the attention of researchers, educators and visitors from across Alabama, the nation and around the world. This initiative is strengthened through partnerships with NASA and the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, helping connect Alabama's unique impact-crater story to broaden STEM learning and space-science curiosity; and*

*WHEREAS, the Wetumpka Impact Crater Commission has demonstrated dedicated leadership in preserving, studying and interpreting the crater through education, public outreach, guided tours and community partnerships, ensuring responsible stewardship of this irreplaceable natural resource; and*

*WHEREAS, Alabama Impact Crater Discovery Week highlights the crater's role as a living classroom, supporting STEM education, inspiring future scientists and strengthening Alabama's heritage tourism economy by inviting learners and visitors to engage directly with the state's natural history; and*

*WHEREAS, Alabama Impact Crater Discovery Week is established to celebrate this unique geological landmark while promoting science education, environmental awareness, heritage tourism and community engagement throughout the state of Alabama:*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 1 through March 7, 2026, as*

# Alabama Impact Crater Discovery Week

*in the state of Alabama and I encourage all citizens to recognize and celebrate the Wetumpka Impact Crater as a source of scientific discovery, educational opportunity and lasting pride for Alabama and the world.*



*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 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.*

*Kay Ivey*  
Kay Ivey, Governor