



# Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MONTH**

**APRIL 2021**

- WHEREAS,** *Environmental education includes the interdisciplinary understanding of local, state, regional, national and global environmental issues, including air, water and soil quality, human and environmental health and justice, biodiversity, habitat protection and restoration, land use, energy, sustainable development; and climate change; involving a wide variety of academic disciplines, including all sciences, mathematics, social studies, civics, economics, language arts, and more; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland has risen as a leader regionally and nationally in embracing environmental education as an integral part of providing a world class education and preparing our students with the necessary understanding and skills to participate responsibly in environmental decision-making, to live sustainably, and to build an environmentally literate statewide community and workforce that cares for our waters, parks and lands; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Environmental education provides teachers with a creative extension of their classroom and real world learning through meaningful student-driven action in Maryland's communities, creating an appreciation for our cultural heritage, values and natural resources; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Exploration and enjoyment of the outdoors - both as part of a formal education program as well as an unstructured, recreational activity - is critical to nurturing children's curiosity, developing a sense of stewardship for nature, and improving children's health; and Maryland is working to intentionally connect more children to nature in their local communities; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is committed to providing equitable opportunities for persons, who are reflective of the state's diversity, striving to empower all residents to be environmental stewards and to promote the inclusion of everyone in creating a resilient future in the face of climate change; and*
- WHEREAS,** *2021 is the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the first Earth Day, which occurs annually in April, and in recognition and celebration of the great strides that have occurred in advancing environmental education for all Marylanders to ultimately benefit our Earth.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim APRIL 2021 as ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MONTH and observe the week of APRIL 18-24, 2021 as ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.**

*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,*  
this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April  
Two Thousand and twenty-one

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Byrd L. H. K. Lathford*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. W. W. W.*  
Secretary of State

