## A Proclamation By Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the state of Mississippi is blessed with more than 23 state lakes and over 470 freshwater lakes and ponds within its boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, lakes and ponds are important resources to the Mississippi way of life and its environment, providing sources of recreation, scenic beauty and habitat for wildlife;

WHEREAS, individuals and organized forms of recreation and the creative use of free time are vital to the happy lives of all our citizens: and education, athletic and recreation programs on our lakes and ponds throughout the State of Mississippi, encompass a multitude of activities that can result in personal accomplishment, selfsatisfaction and family unity for all citizens, regardless of their background, ability level or age; and

**WHEREAS**, Mississippi lakes are valuable economic resources for Mississippi businesses, tourism and municipal governments;

**WHEREAS**, the State of Mississippi recognizes the need to protect these lakes and ponds for future generations;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim July 2003 as

## LAKE AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Mississippi, and I urge all citizens to support and promote this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, June 27, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE GOVERNOR