

Template Governor's Proclamation for

**Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month  
2017**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**Whereas**, the citizens in the great state of (State) live fully and abundantly and enjoy clean water, fresh air, safe neighborhoods, lush landscapes, parks and green spaces, crop and food diversity, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats and a multitude of prized natural resources; and,

**Whereas**, the introduction and spread of invasive plant pests and diseases continue to threaten our state's and our nation's trees, forests and food crops; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the desired goal of the State of (State) that citizens and visitors alike increase their understanding and awareness of these destructive plant pests and diseases and their environmental, ecological, and economic impact on (State) and the nation; and,

**Whereas**, by taking responsibility for our actions and being careful not to accidentally move invasive pests, we can curtail their human-assisted spread and help reduce the risk to (State's) forests, landscapes, and agriculture; and,

**Whereas**, spring marks the emergence of damaging pests that threaten our state and can hide in fruit, vegetables, plants, firewood or on familiar outdoor items or hitchhike on our cars and trucks; and,

**WHEREAS**, employing a cooperative spirit and environmental stewardship is equally important today and all year long because the invasive species battle is nonstop; and,

**WHEREAS**, Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month is an opportunity for the government to join forces with schools, businesses, industry, environmental groups, community organizations, tourists and citizens to stop the spread of invasive pests;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, (name), Governor of the State of (State) do hereby proclaim the month of April Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month in (State) and I commend this observance to all people.