



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The Division of Forestry of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has protected forestlands through fire control efforts since 1911; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota's 2012 fire season started early in the year and extended well into the fall, taxing firefighter resources throughout the state, and drought effects continue into 2013; and
- WHEREAS: Most wildfires in Minnesota occur in the spring after snow melts, and Minnesota's wildland firefighters extinguish an average of 1,500 fires that burn 35,000 acres annually; and
- WHEREAS: In Minnesota, 98% of wildfires are caused by people, with the most common cause being escaped debris-burning fires; and
- WHEREAS: Wildfires jeopardize public health and safety, destroy homes and property, and cost millions of dollars annually to extinguish; and
- WHEREAS: The best way to protect lives and property from wildfire is to prevent fires from starting.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 21 - 27, 2013 as:

## WILDFIRE PREVENTION WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE