



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, The year 2004 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Watershed Protection and Flood Control Act Public Law 83-566; and

**WHEREAS**, 88 flood control structures built, and erosion and runoff from over 300,000 acres of land in 14 Counties were controlled in a unique partnership of federal, state, local government and citizen watershed associations; and

**WHEREAS**, Each year over \$140 million in private property and public infrastructure is protected from flash flooding from an initial taxpayer investment of just over \$35 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Vernon County has demonstrated outstanding, long-term leadership in the area of conserving Wisconsin's natural resources through 1) the establishment of the first National Demonstration of the watershed approach to resource management in 1934 through the Coon Creek Watershed Project, 2) participating in the National Pilot Project of P.L 83-566 in 1954 by constructing the first two dams in Wisconsin, 3) constructing one-fourth of all the P.L 83-566 structures in the Wisconsin from 1954 through 1988, and 4) participating in the National Pilot Project of P.L. 106-472 Small Watershed Rehabilitation Act in 2002;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Doyle, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim**

**AUGUST 4, 2004 as the**

**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC LAW 83-566  
WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION PROGRAM.**

and do hereby further proclaim

**VERNON COUNTY**

**THE HEART OF NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION IN AMERICA**

in the State of Wisconsin and commend this observance to all citizens.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this ninth day of February in the year two thousand four.

  
JIM DOYLE

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State