

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, agriculture is the economic driver of South Dakota, contributing 129,753 jobs and 32.1 billion dollars in total output. With farmers and ranchers creating this impact through the management of cropland, forests, grasslands, and livestock; and,

Whereas, soil is the basis for all life, the foundation and means by which plants and animals can be grown and products produced; and,

Whereas, farmers and ranchers have seen a need to increase awareness of the importance of our soils as a state resource as well as promote management practices that increase its health and productivity for sustainability; and,

Whereas, building organic matter which retains and cycles nitrogen and sequesters carbon reducing production costs and enhancing habitat while balancing the biological community; and,

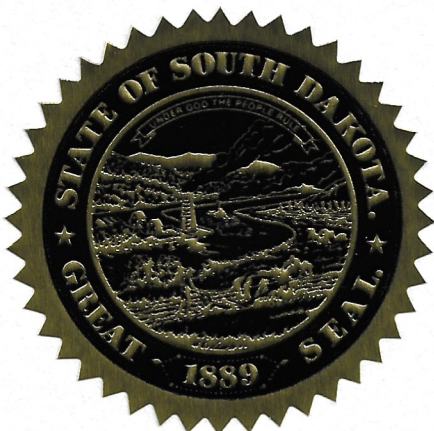
Whereas, healthy soil can improve the nutrient density of the food it produces, reiterating healthy soil, healthy food and healthy people; and,

Whereas, a collective effort to increase sustainable agricultural production, improving the profitability of our farms and ranches, improving our water quality, and safeguards the ability of future generations to produce the food, fuel and fiber we require:

Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of February 17, 2022, as

SOIL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this second day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.


Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:


Steven J. Barnett, Secretary of State