

State of Louisiana



M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

Proclamation

- WHEREAS, geography has played a defining role in the settlement, history, and cultural heritage of the state of Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS, an understanding of geographical concepts is crucial to maintain a balance between the wise use of the state's natural resources, continued economic prosperity, and the general health and well-being of the state's citizens; and
- WHEREAS, the management, use, and exchange of geographic information are essential for effective decision making by local, state, and federal government agencies; and
- WHEREAS, computerized Geographic Information System (GIS) technology provides an efficient and effective means for managing geographic information; and
- WHEREAS, there have been widespread and rapid technological advances in hardware, software, mapping, and telecommunications related to the GIS industry; and
- WHEREAS, extensive efforts are underway in various public and private agencies and organizations throughout the United States and the world to develop, incorporate, and utilize GIS technology; and
- WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate these efforts to minimize duplication, reduce costs, develop standards, and to facilitate the sharing and interchange of GIS data, methods, and knowledge; and
- WHEREAS, there is a need to promote GIS awareness, education, and technical training among various groups to most appropriately and wisely use this rapidly developing technology; and
- WHEREAS, National Geography Awareness Week promotes geographic literacy in schools and to the public and is recognized and celebrated annually in Louisiana, that week being observed November 17 - 23 2002; and
- WHEREAS, GIS is an important part of geography awareness; and
- WHEREAS, the national GIS community has joined to declare November 20, 2002, as GIS Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr., Governor of the state of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim November 20, 2002, as



GIS DAY

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
in the state of Louisiana.

my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 6th day of October
A.D., 2002

Attest By
The Governor

Joseph M. Keithen
Secretary of State

M. J. Foster, Jr.
Governor of Louisiana