Governor Kristi Noem has proclaimed February 21st, 2020 as Soil Health Awareness Day. Join us and our partners in raising awareness about this extremely important resource!

“Soil Health, It Matters!”

-It Matters To Consumers -It Matters To Producers
-It Matters To Our Wildlife -It Matters Economically
-It Matters Because of Organic Matter -It Matters Because of Carbon
-It Matters Because of Water Quality -It Matters To Our Roads and Bridges
-It Matters Whether Young or Old -It Matters To Everyone!

Interested in materials to promote the day? Contact us or visit our website

www.sdsoilhealthcoalition.org
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION
Office of the Governor
State of South Dakota

WHEREAS, agriculture is the economic driver of South Dakota, contributing 132,105 jobs, 11.2 billion dollars in total value added, and 32.5 billion dollars in total output. With farmers and ranchers creating this impact through the management of cropland, 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, 2019 remained an especially challenging year for farmers and ranchers with extreme weather conditions causing large erosion and flood events; and

WHEREAS, healthy soil can create many advantages including improving water infiltration and retention to better manage the effects of flood or drought, filtering and cleaning water that moves through it, decreasing soil loss due to erosion by wind or water; and

WHEREAS, building organic matter which retains and cycles nitrogen and sequesters carbon reducing production costs and enhancing wildlife habitat while balancing the biological community above and below ground; and

WHEREAS, a collective effort to increase sustainable agricultural production through improved soil health.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 21, 2020, as

SOIL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

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 Twelfth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

Kris. Noem
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:

Steven J. Barnett
Secretary of State