WHEREAS, water is a finite natural resource, growing increasingly scarce, that is crucial to the welfare of all societies and integral to the survival of all species and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, access to safe water is essential to human life and is a basic human right; and

WHEREAS, over one billion people lack access to adequate supplies of safe water, and six thousand children die every day because of contaminated water or poor hygiene; and

WHEREAS, established in 1992, World Water Day helps raise awareness of global and local water issues, including the right of every human being to clean, safe, and affordable water in quantity and quality sufficient to sustain life and fulfill basic needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2007, as

WORLD WATER DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to conserve water and to work together to help ensure that all individuals have equitable and affordable access to this limited and valuable resource.