

# Proclamation

## by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** the Town of Bath, located in Morgan County in the Eastern Panhandle, was formally established in 1776 when the area was part of the Colony of Virginia, and is among the earliest municipalities in the region; and
- Whereas,** Bath now lies within the Great State of West Virginia, serving as the county seat of Morgan County and playing a vital role in the civic, governmental, and economic life of the county and surrounding region; and
- Whereas,** the Town of Bath was founded around warm mineral springs long celebrated for their restorative and therapeutic qualities, attracting visitors seeking health, wellness, and relaxation for centuries; and
- Whereas,** the Virginia General Assembly recognized the importance of these springs by reserving them for public use, establishing one of the earliest public wellness destinations in America; and
- Whereas,** the name Bath honors the town's historic identity and enduring legacy as a destination centered around its renowned mineral springs; and
- Whereas,** General George Washington was a frequent visitor to the springs, helping to establish the town's early national reputation as a place of healing, relaxation, and natural beauty; and
- Whereas,** for nearly 250 years, the Town of Bath has preserved its historic legacy while welcoming visitors from across the nation and around the world to experience its mineral waters, historic baths, arts community, and small-town hospitality; and
- Whereas,** the year 2026 marks the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Town of Bath, providing an opportunity to celebrate its historic contributions to tourism, wellness, and the cultural heritage of Morgan County and the State of West Virginia.

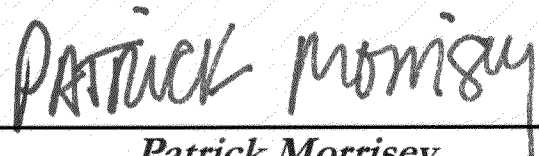
**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim the *Town of Bath, West Virginia*, as:

### *America's First Spa Town*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in observance.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Eighteenth Day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



*Patrick Morrisey*  
Governor

*By the Governor:*



*Kris Warner*  
Secretary of State