

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Arbor Day Proclamation and Tree City USA Designation		
DEPARTMENT:	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services		
PRESENTED BY:	City Council		
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proclamation

INTRODUCTION

In 1872, Arbor Day was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in the State of Nebraska. Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world. Arbor Day is observed on the last Friday of April, and this year, Arbor Day falls on April 24, 2015.

The City of Shoreline has long recognized the benefit of improving the natural environment for present and future generations. Natural areas, trees, and landscapes provide not only community beautification but also economic and environmental benefits. To that end, the City of Shoreline is engaged in the Implementation of the 2014 Urban Forest Strategic Plan. That plan guides the City in the management and maintenance of our valuable community forest.

This proclamation recognizes Arbor Day in the City of Shoreline and encourages Shoreline citizens to participate in appropriate activities and to enjoy the parks and other natural areas in our community. On Saturday, April 4, 2015, the City of Shoreline celebrated Arbor Day by gathering with residents to remove invasive plants at Northcrest Park. The City of Shoreline has received official notification that the City has been recognized for the third year in a row as a Tree City USA community. Ben Thompson, Urban Forestry Specialist from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, was in attendance to formally present our award.

At tonight's meeting, Al Wagar, outgoing Tree Board member, will accept the Arbor Day proclamation. Al Wagar has lived in Shoreline for over 35 years. He conducted research in outdoor recreation and urban forestry with the U.S. Forest Service. As a professor at the University of Washington, he and a colleague developed an urban forest management course, and helped develop Seattle's Urban Forest Strategic Plan. As a member of the Tree Board, he assisted the City of Shoreline implement Shoreline's Urban Forest Strategic Plan in 2014. He also works on trail and restoration projects here in Shoreline and throughout the region, walks dogs for PAWS, and is active in birding and butterfly groups.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council declare April 24, 2015 as a day to recognize Arbor Day in the City of Shoreline.

Approved By: City Manager ***DT*** City Attorney ***MK***



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, beautify our community, and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline has been recognized for the third year in a row as a Tree City USA Community by Washington State Department of Natural Resources Urban and Community Forestry;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Shari Winstead, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and urban forest, and do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015 as

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Shoreline.

Shari Winstead, Mayor of Shoreline