

2021 PROCLAMATION of ARBOR DAY in the City of Lafayette

- WHEREAS:** In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed "Arbor Day" to recognize the importance of trees in our lives, and
- WHEREAS:** In 1989, Johanna Downie, Lafayette Council woman had the foresight and vision to author Lafayette's Tree Ordinance, to protect Lafayette's street trees, promote planting and education, and
- WHEREAS:** Trees are a necessary component of our healthful existence, and contribute to the quality of life by purifying the atmosphere, moderating temperatures, and providing seasonal beauty, and
- WHEREAS:** In December of 2015, the United Nations signed the Paris Climate Agreement. The Paris Agreement promotes more trees being planted in the cities of the world, and
- WHEREAS:** As development consumes more and more open land, the planting of more trees takes on greater importance, and
- WHEREAS:** Trees contribute to our nation's natural resources, by providing fuel, shelter and food in a form that, through proper management and use, can remain renewable for the use of future generations, and
- WHEREAS:** Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and storm 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, and beautify our community, and
- WHEREAS:** The citizens of the City of Lafayette join the thousands of other Americans who will commemorate this special day by planting trees and celebrating the importance of trees in our lives,
- NOW THEREFORE:** I, **Tony Roswarski, Mayor of the City of Lafayette do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 1st, 2021 as the observance of:**

ARBOR DAY in the City of Lafayette

and call upon the people of Lafayette to recognize this important day and to protect and plant trees and forests for the well-being of this and future generations.



Tony Roswarski, Mayor of the City of Lafayette