

CITY OF WINTER PARK proclamation

Arbor Day | April 25, 2025

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 1 million trees in Nebraska, and is now observed throughout the nation as well as the world; and

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

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, the city's Urban Forestry Division is proud to partner with the Winter Park Land Trust and Mead Botanical Garden in planting trees in conjunction with the Natural Resources & Sustainability Department's restoration of Howell Creek; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a great source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, Winter Park has been recognized as a Tree City USA® by the National Arbor Day Foundation® for 45 years straight and desires to continue its tree-planting ways; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sheila DeCiccio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Winter Park, in the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim **Friday, April 25, 2025**, to be **Arbor Day** in the City of Winter Park, Florida, and urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and support our city's urban forestry program.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Winter Park, Florida, to be affixed this 25th day of April 2025.

Sheila DeCiccio
Mayor