

**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 one million trees in Nebraska; and*

*WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed annually in Olympia; and*

*WHEREAS, trees provide a multitude of environmental benefits such as cleaning the air we breathe, reducing soil erosion, cooling the air, shading our streams, and providing wildlife habitat; and*

*WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource, an identifying characteristic of our Pacific Northwest community; and*

*WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our neighborhoods; and*

*WHEREAS, planting trees is a source of joy and a living legacy; and*

*WHEREAS, Olympia, Washington has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for the 23<sup>rd</sup> year;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim April 16, 2016 as*

**ARBOR DAY**

*and urge all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and forested areas, and to participate in supporting a healthy community tree canopy.*

*SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY Of April, 2016.*

**OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL**

*Cheryl Selby  
Mayor*