



City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E.  
Olympia, WA 98501  
360-753-8244

## City Council

### Special Recognition - 2019 Arbor Day Proclamation

**Agenda Date:** 3/19/2019  
**Agenda Item Number:** 2.A  
**File Number:** 19-0162

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**Type:** recognition **Version:** 1 **Status:** Filed

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**Title**

Special Recognition - 2019 Arbor Day Proclamation

**Recommended Action**

**Committee Recommendation:**

Not referred to a committee.

**City Manager Recommendation:**

Proclaim March 23, 2019, as Arbor Day in Olympia.

**Report**

**Issue:**

Whether to recognize Arbor Day and the importance of trees and native forests to our community.

**Staff Contact:**

Jesse Barham, Associate Planner, Public Work Water Resources, 360.753.8164  
Shelly Bentley, Urban Forestry Program Manager, Community Planning & Development, 360.753.8301

**Presenters:**

Shelly Bentley, Associate Planner, Public Work Water Resources  
Jesse Barham, Urban Forestry Program Manager, Community Planning & Development

**Background and Analysis:**

On Arbor Day, we honor trees for their contribution to our society. Trees and forests contribute to the aesthetics, urban fabric and unique ecology forming the identity of our community. In a City the size of Olympia, trees and other native vegetation provide ecological functions that are worth literally millions of dollars such as:

- Air filtration and carbon sequestration
- Stormwater retention
- Erosion control and slope stabilization
- Moderation of urban microclimate

- Shading our creeks, shorelines, and wetlands while providing wildlife habitat

Trees also provide psychological, social, health and safety benefits.

The City of Olympia is committed to creating a sustainable urban environment through preserving, managing and improving this valuable natural resource. This is Olympia's 26<sup>th</sup> year being recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

In 2019, three City departments (Community Planning and Development; Parks, Arts and Recreation; and Public Works) are collaborating on a variety of events to celebrate Arbor Day at Percival Landing Park. Festivities will take place on Saturday March 23 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and will include:

- Proper Pruning Workshop
- Live Music by the Artesian Rumble Arkestra
- Celebration and Awards Ceremony
- Ceremonial Tree Planting
- Tour of Downtown Street Trees
- Kids activities
- Free Native Tree/Shrub/Wildflower Seeds
- Self-Guided Tour of Shoreline Native Plants

**Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):**

No known conflicting interests.

**Options:**

N/A

**Financial Impact:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

Proclamation

[Link to Arbor Day Webpage](#)

Event Flyer