



City Council

Special Recognition - 2019 Arbor Day Proclamation

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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:

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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 26th 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