

# 11 Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver has been named a "Tree City USA" for the thirty-fourth (34th) consecutive year in recognition of its excellence and commitment to ongoing community forestry programs for planting and management of trees to maximize their benefits; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day was first observed in 1872 with the planting of more than one million trees in the state of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Washington, the "Evergreen State," has celebrated Arbor Day since 1917; and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver proudly flies the Tree City USA flag during the month of April; and

WHEREAS, Vancouver's Arbor Month 2023 includes: City Council recognition of Arbor Day; Forest School at Countryside Park on April 6th; Arbor Day celebration and planting along Campus Drive with Fort Vancouver Horticulture Students, community members, and the Gordon and Sylvia MacWilliams Evergreen Award recipients on April 12th; online educational tree activities for the whole family, and pop-up arboretums at Bagley Park and Fruit Valley Park; and

WHEREAS, trees enhance our lives by supporting clean water; improving air quality; producing oxygen; reducing the heat island effect; reducing runoff; cooling temperatures of rivers and creeks; preventing erosion of precious topsoil; lowering heating and cooling costs; reducing stress; and providing wildlife food and habitat; and

WHEREAS, trees help build community and beautify neighborhoods; and wherever they are planted, trees are a source of joy and renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver do hereby proclaim the month of April as Arbor Month and recognize April 12, 2023 as

## "Arbor Day"

in the City of Vancouver and encourage all residents and businesses to join Vancouver's Urban Forestry Commission in our continuous efforts to properly plant, care for and preserve trees for the good of current and future generations.

FURTHER, I encourage all community members to make Arbor Day every day throughout the year, by caring for existing trees, planting new trees, or simply enjoying the benefits that trees bring to Vancouver, and helping to keep our City green and growing.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 3rd day of April, 2023.

*Anne McEnery-Ogle*  
ANNE McENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR