

# 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**, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

**Whereas**, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

**Whereas**, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, 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**, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

**Whereas**, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

**Whereas**, the City and its arbor day partners Oregon City School District, Clackamas County Soil and Water District, Greater Oregon City Watershed Council, Friends of Trees, and Oregon Department of Forestry have been working together to plant trees and educate the community about the importance of urban forestry; and

**Whereas**, Oregon City will celebrate its first year as a Tree City USA with an award from the Arbor Day Foundation;

**Now, Therefore, I, Doug Neeley**, Mayor of the City of Oregon City, do proclaim

**April 17, 2013**

**as**

**Arbor Day in Oregon City**

**And**, urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day, support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to plant and care for trees to promote the well-being of this and future generations.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this 3<sup>th</sup> day of April 2013

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DOUG NEELEY, Mayor