

**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS  
PROCLAMATION**

**Celebrate Arbor Day**

**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 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 life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

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

**WHEREAS**, we plan on continuing our commitment for managing our trees in Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, we continue to remove damaged trees, plant new trees, and having myself plant an Arbor Day tree in a city park.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Gary W. Manier, Mayor of the City of Washington, Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2017, as Arbor Day in the City of Washington, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands.

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Gary W. Manier, Mayor

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Date

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia S. Brown, City Clerk