

**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 23, 2021, 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.

Gary W. Manier, Mayor

Date

ATTEST: _____
Valeri Brod, City Clerk