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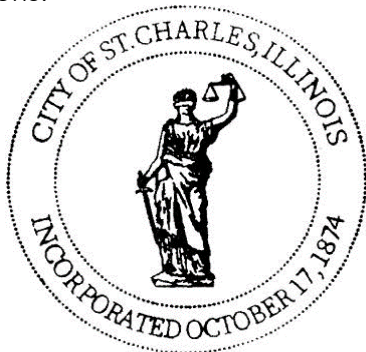
THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

Arbor Day *April 26, 2024*

- 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 oxygen and provide a 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
- WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.
- WHEREAS, on Arbor Day we also recognize the importance of all of our natural resources and sustaining a healthy natural environment, and
- WHEREAS, we plant trees to serve as a natural habitat for birds and other living things, we also maintain special, community gardens, such as the butterfly garden outside of City Hall, to encourage pollinators, especially the Monarch butterfly, and to increase awareness of pollinator habitats.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lora Vitek, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2024 as Arbor Day in the City of St. Charles, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands. Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees and care for trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.



Lora A. Vitek, Mayor