



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1872 more than a million trees were planted in Nebraska to celebrate the first Arbor Day, which is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees in our City are important community infrastructure and increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community as well as help conserve energy use by shading and cooling buildings and pavement; and

WHEREAS, trees improve people's mental and physical health, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, provide habitat for wildlife and can help offset the greenhouse effect by turning carbon dioxide, the primary cause of global warming, into life-giving oxygen; and

WHEREAS, Fort Collins has been recognized as a Tree City U.S.A. by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 48 years; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to recognize Bacon and Harris Elementary, which have been selected as the Arbor Day School site for this year's tree plantings; and

WHEREAS, the City also wishes to recognize the Platte River Power Authority for maintaining a strong commitment to the environment with the addition of non-carbon generation resources; and

WHEREAS, the Platte River Power Authority supports sustainability and community improvement and has given the City \$3,500 to purchase trees that will be planted in honor of Arbor Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Emily Francis, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2026, as

ARBOR DAY

in Fort Collins and urge all community members to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to support our City's urban forest canopy by planting trees for present and future generations. We thank the Platte River Power Authority for its generous donation and Fort Collins Wholesale Nursery for its donation and contribution to the celebration of Arbor Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 21st day of April, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk