



# PROCLAMATION

Arbor Day

Nov. 20, 2024

**WHEREAS**, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton, who would become Secretary of Agriculture under President Grover Cleveland, proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for planting trees; and

**WHEREAS**, the resulting holiday – Arbor Day, was first observed in that state with the planting of more than one million trees and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, trees are renewable resources that yield fruit and nuts for food and profit, wood for construction, fuel for warmth, paper products and a variety of other goods and materials; and

**WHEREAS**, trees intercept storm water, reduce runoff and erosion, clean air and water, produce oxygen, slow climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide, provide habitat for wildlife, and moderate air temperature; and

**WHEREAS**, when properly selected and tended appropriately, trees increase property values, enhance economic vitality and business districts, provide buffers from traffic and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Hillsborough achieved Tree City USA status in 1983 and has received the Outstanding Tree Board Urban Forestry Award by the N.C. Urban Forest Council while continuing to maintain and improve our urban forest by the planting of additional trees to enhance our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day reminds us of the timeless observation by its founder, J. Sterling Morton, that “Each generation takes the Earth as trustees;”

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mark Bell, mayor of the Town of Hillsborough, do hereby proclaim Nov. 20, 2024, as Arbor Day in the Town of Hillsborough and urge all residents to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and encourage the community to plant trees to promote the well-being of this and future generations because a healthy urban forest can bring a sense of vibrancy or respite, adventure or calm and escape or contentment, amidst asphalt and concrete.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the Town of Hillsborough to be affixed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year 2024.

---

Mark Bell, Mayor  
Town of Hillsborough