

**A PROCLAMATION OF
THE CITY OF HILSHIRE VILLAGE, TEXAS
IN RECOGNITION OF ARBOR DAY**

WHEREAS, Arbor Day celebrates planting and nurturing trees, and all the ways trees enrich our lives and stabilize the environment; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day first appeared in the United States in 1872. Residents of the Great Plains recognized how much trees could do for them, and they enthusiastically embraced the vision; and

WHEREAS, President Theodore Roosevelt was a strong supporter of Arbor Day. Early in the 20th century, it was becoming clear that the nation's forests were being exhausted by timber harvesting. The science of forest management was emerging, and the government was moving to suppress wildfires and plant trees. Roosevelt sent a letter to the children of the United States in which he wrote, "A people without children would face a hopeless future; a country without trees is almost as hopeless"; and

WHEREAS, In Texas, Arbor Day first appeared in Temple on Feb. 22, 1889. W. Goodrich Jones led the citizens of Temple in a mass meeting to call for a tree planting campaign along the streets of the city. One year later, the first statewide observance of Arbor Day was held in Austin. Through the efforts of Sen. George Tyler of Belton, Feb. 22 was set aside by law as Arbor Day to encourage planting trees in the state; and

WHEREAS, After the original Texas Arbor Day law expired, the state continued to observe Arbor Day by proclamation of the governor, usually on George Washington's birthday. In 1949, the Texas Legislature adopted a resolution designating the third Friday in January as Texas Arbor Day; and

WHEREAS, In 1989 the Legislature passed a resolution moving Texas Arbor Day to the last Friday in April to align with the traditionally observed national Arbor Day. Today, the official Texas Arbor Day is held on the first Friday in November, but thanks to the diversity of this state, Arbor Day can be celebrated in Texas communities anytime throughout the fall and winter planting season; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Robert F. Buesinger, Mayor of the City of Hilshire Village, do hereby proclaim Friday, November 3rd as Arbor Day, and I urge all citizens to celebrate and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands; and

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Robert F. Buesinger, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cassie Stephens, City Secretary

Date

