

## ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

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 *Arbor Day* is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees 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 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 village increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

WHEREAS, in April of 2026, the Village of Homewood will be recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA for the *twenty-eighth* year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard A. Hofeld, Village President, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2026 as

### *ARBOR DAY*

in the *Village of Homewood*, and urge all citizens to celebrate *Arbor Day* 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.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026

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Village President  
Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois