

# Town of Johnstown

### TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE: October 23, 2023

**SUBJECT**: Town of Johnstown Arbor Day Celebrations

**ATTACHMENTS**: Photographs

**PRESENTED BY**: Matt LeCerf, Town Manager

#### **AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:**

The Town of Johnstown celebrated Arbor Day 2023 by holding a Tree Giveaway event for residents, as well as participating in an Arbor Day Tour with all elementary schools in Johnstown. Both events were a great success thanks to the Mayor, our Staff, and wonderful local community partners. Please see an overview of each program below.

The Tree Giveaway took place on April 13, 2023 the Johnstown Police Department. Residents were able to come to Town Hall to pick up a voucher between April 3-11 to be redeemed the day of the giveaway. The Town was able to purchase 132 trees at a lower cost from Trees Across Colorado, a nonprofit organization focused on planting trees in Colorado. Public Works crews picked the trees up from the delivery location in Windsor and brought them back to Johnstown for the giveaway. We served over 100 residents in a drive through style event where they provided us with their voucher along with their desired tree type. Town Staff then loaded the tree for individuals into their vehicle. Tree care flyers were handed out to every resident who received a tree. It was a very smooth operation and residents truly enjoyed the program. We look forward to partnering with Trees Across Colorado again for our annual tree giveaway event. Funding in 2023 for the program was \$12,000 and in FY 2024 it is proposed to increase to \$14,000.

The Arbor Day Celebration Tour with the Town's local elementary schools went well on Thursday, May 11, 2023. All 3 elementary schools in Johnstown were involved in the day. The celebration was attended by the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes at each school. The Mayor and Town Staff saw over 200 kids and discussed with them the importance of Arbor Day, trees in our community, and taking care of nature in our surrounding areas. The Town was very excited to be able to partner with Elwell Elementary, Pioneer Ridge Elementary, and Riverview PK-8 School in this

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educational opportunity. The student's "nature promises" in the form of hand cut outs can be seen on display in the Town Hall foyer during the month that the Town recognizes Arbor Day. Programs like this provide a sustainable way to mix government efficacy with the Town's values and goals, and the education of the local youth.

#### **Tree Giveaway**



**Arbor Day School Tours** 



