



CITY OF ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS OFFICE OF THE MAYOR Proclamation

## ARBOR DAY APRIL 26, 2024

**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,** the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

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

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

**WHEREAS,** trees are renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

**WHEREAS,** trees in our city 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,

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, John Bearrows, Mayor of the City of Rochelle, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2024, as **ARBOR DAY** in the City of Rochelle, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

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

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Rochelle to be affixed.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024.

John Bearrows, Mayor



Attest:

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