

**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
PROCLAMATION**

Celebrate Arbor Day

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

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 in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, we plan on continuing our commitment for managing our trees in Washington; and

WHEREAS, we continue to remove damaged trees, plant new trees, and having myself plant an Arbor Day tree.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary W. Manier, Mayor of the City of Washington, Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2024, as Arbor Day in the City of Washington, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands.

Gary W. Manier, Mayor

Date

ATTEST: _____
Valeri Brod, City Clerk