

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to 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 be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing 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 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, Ben Marciano**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby declare April 16, 2024, to be:

ARBOR DAY

in Ocala, Florida, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 16th day of April 2024.



Ben Marciano, Mayor City of Ocala