



PROCLAMATION

**ARBOR DAY
APRIL 24, 2015**

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, 2015 is the 143rd anniversary of the holiday and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees are a most valuable resource, purifying our air, helping conserve our soil and energy, serving as a recreational setting, providing a habitat for wildlife of all kinds, and enriching our lives in other important ways; 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, disease, insects and pollution have damaged and continue to threaten our trees, creating the need for tree care and tree planting programs and fostering greater public concern for the future of our urban forest; and

WHEREAS, Edina is proud of the beautiful shade trees which grace our homes and public places; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James B. Hovland, Mayor of Edina, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015 be Arbor Day and call upon the spirited and foresighted citizens of Edina to plant trees now for our pleasure and that of future generations.

Dated this 21st day of April 2015.

James B. Hovland
Mayor