

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, trees are a significant part in making any community a truly vibrant place to live, work and play; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day is a wonderful opportunity to teach the next generation about the importance of having trees in our communities and healthy forests throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, planning for the right tree in the right place helps trees to grow strong and healthy, and capable of providing benefits for all; and

**WHEREAS**, trees help conserve energy, absorb carbon dioxide, give off oxygen, and store carbon; keep our air clean to breathe and our water safe to drink; promote physical fitness and improve mental health; mitigate the impacts of climate change and decrease city temperatures on hot summer days; and ease the stresses of city life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' Urban and Community Forestry Program is working with communities statewide to help local governments, citizen groups, and volunteers plant, care for and maintain safe, healthy urban forests for the benefits they provide within the communities where they live and work in Washington;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 13, 2016 as

### *Arbor Day*

in Washington, and urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016



Governor Jay Inslee