



MEMORANDUM

Phone: 452-5377
Date: April 4, 2011
To: Mayor Davidson and Councilmembers
From: Patrick Foran, Director 
Subject: Arbor Day/Earth Day 2011; Tree City USA Award

This year, in celebration of receiving our 20th Tree City USA Award, the City will host several Arbor Day/Earth Day activities to facilitate public awareness of and involvement with the environment.

March – April: Arbor Day Poster Art Project with Bellevue Schools

Bellevue 5th graders are submitting Arbor Day posters for this year's theme: Trees are Terrific in Cities and Towns. Posters will be displayed at community centers within Bellevue and the top three winners will be honored at the event at the Botanical Garden.

April 4: Tree City USA Award and Growth Award Presentation to the City of Bellevue

At the April 4 Council meeting, Mayor Davidson will declare April 16 as Arbor Day/Earth Day in Bellevue. This year, Bellevue will receive its 20th *Tree City USA* award and 18th *Growth Award* from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

April 16: Arbor Day/Earth Day 2011 at the Bellevue Botanical Garden

On Saturday April 16, the City will host its annual Arbor Day/Earth Day event at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. During the morning, over 300 volunteers are expected to participate in park enhancement projects including native planting, invasive plant removal, and trail improvements.

Between 10am-2pm, the Botanical Garden will host the Arbor Day/Earth Day event. A variety of eco-stations will be set up throughout the Garden where visitors can make their own terrarium, discover how a wetland works, attend a docent-led garden tour, look at bugs through a microscope, and learn about our local urban wildlife.

At 11:30am, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2995 will kick off the Arbor Day/Earth Day Recognition Ceremony. During the ceremony, volunteer groups and partnering organizations will be recognized. The ceremony will culminate at noon with a ceremonial Arbor Day Tree Planting.

We hope you can join us in celebration of this year's special events which highlight our commitment to environmental stewardship.

cc: Parks & Community Services Board
Transportation Commission
Planning Commission
Environmental Services Commission

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

PROCLAMATION

- Whereas;* The City of Bellevue has adopted the goal of integrating the natural and built environments to create a sustainable urban habitat; and
- Whereas;* The City of Bellevue is dedicated to providing educational opportunities that achieve greater environmental awareness, appreciation, and stewardship of our natural, cultural, and historical resources; and
- Whereas;* The citizens of Bellevue wish to reside in an area with clean air and water, habitat for wildlife, and comfortable and secure places for people to live, work, and play; and
- Whereas;* Trees are essential to the protection of salmon habitat because they provide shade along streams and preserve water quality by preventing erosion; and
- Whereas;* Trees in our City increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and
- Whereas;* Wherever planted, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and
- Whereas;* Bellevue, for the twentieth consecutive year, has been recognized as a *Tree City USA* community by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices; and
- Whereas;* Bellevue is committed to working with its residents and businesses to help “*build a healthy community*” by planting trees;

Now, therefore, I, Don Davidson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim April 16, 2011 as

ARBOR DAY/ EARTH DAY

in Bellevue, and encourage citizens to observe this time by participating both in community-wide celebrations of the environment and in city beautification and enhancement projects.

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Don Davidson, DDS
Mayor