



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 15, 2013
To: Mayor Lee and City Councilmembers
From: Patrick Foran, Director
Phone: 452-5377
Subject: Arbor Day-Earth Day 2013; Tree City USA Award

This year, in celebration of Arbor Day-Earth Day, the City will host several activities to facilitate public awareness of and involvement with the environment.

April 15 Tree City USA Award and Growth Award Presentation to the City of Bellevue

At the April 15 Council meeting, Mayor Lee will declare April 20 as Arbor Day-Earth Day in Bellevue. This year, Bellevue will receive its 22nd *Tree City USA Award* and 20th *Growth Award* from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

April 20: Arbor Day-Earth Day 2013 at Lewis Creek Park

On Saturday April 20, the City will host its annual Arbor Day-Earth Day event at Lewis Creek Park. During the morning, over 300 volunteers will participate in park enhancement projects including native planting, invasive plant removal, and trail improvements.

From 11am-1 pm, a variety of eco-stations will be set up throughout the park where visitors can go on ranger-led hikes, discover how a wetland works, look at bugs through a microscope, and learn about our local urban wildlife.

At 11:30am, the Arbor Day-Earth Day Recognition Ceremony will begin, and volunteer groups and partnering organizations will be recognized for their hard work and commitment. 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 twenty-second 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, Conrad Lee, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim April 20, 2013 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.

Conrad Lee
Mayor