



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 7, 2014
To: Mayor Balducci and City Councilmembers
From: Patrick Foran, Director
Phone: 452-5377
Subject: Arbor Day-Earth Day 2014; 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 7: Tree City USA Award and Growth Award Presentation to the City of Bellevue

At the April 7 Council meeting, Mayor Balducci will declare May 3, 2014 Arbor Day-Earth Day in Bellevue. This year, Bellevue will receive its 23rd *Tree City USA Award* and 21th *Growth Award* from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

May 3: Arbor Day-Earth Day 2014 at Kelsey Creek Park

On Saturday May 3, the City will host its annual Arbor Day-Earth Day event at Kelsey 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-1pm, a variety of eco-stations will be set up throughout the park where visitors can learn about how they can help protect the environment.

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-third 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, Claudia Balducci, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2014 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.

Claudia Balducci, Mayor
City of Bellevue