



CITY OF BELLINGHAM  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
SETH FLEETWOOD

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

**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,** The first Arbor Day observed in Nebraska resulted in over one million trees planted; and

**WHEREAS,** Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tree City USA program, sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation, provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities that more than 93 million Americans call home; and

**WHEREAS,** The City of Bellingham has been a “Tree City” for the past 27 years; and

**WHEREAS,** Trees sequester carbon and reduce the impacts of climate change, reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS,** Tree planting is consistent with the City’s Urban Forestry Management Plan efforts to optimize the environmental, economic and social benefits of the City’s urban forest; and

**WHEREAS,** Trees, wherever they are planted, are a sustainable resource we can all enjoy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO I,** Seth Fleetwood, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim Saturday, October 28, 2023 to be

### ARBOR DAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees.



Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor  
City of Bellingham