



# Proclamation

## *Declaring Arbor Day 2016*

**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,** this Holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

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

**WHEREAS,** trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, reduce heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, provide habitat for wildlife and reduce stormwater runoff; and

**WHEREAS,** trees are a renewable resource, giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products. Trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, beautify our community wherever they are planted, and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Griffin has appointed an Environmental Council to facilitate and oversee the planting of trees in the city; and

**WHEREAS,** the City has pruned and mulched trees throughout the City's rights-of-way; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Griffin has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that Board of Commissioners of the City of Griffin does hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 24, 2016 to be "**Arbor Day 2016**" in the City of Griffin and urges all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, to support our city's urban forestry programs, and to plant trees to promote the well-being of present and future generations.

**IN WITNESS**

**WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Griffin to be affixed on this ninth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and sixteen.

---

Dick Morrow, Chairman

---

Kenny L. Smith, City Manager