

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, this holiday, called *Arbor Day*, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and *Arbor Day* is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

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

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Warford, Mayor of the City of Bismarck, do hereby PROCLAIM May 2, 2014, as

ARBOR DAY

In the City of Bismarck and I urge all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands, and to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of this City of Bismarck this 8th day of April, 2014.

John Warford, Mayor