

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Falls Church is known for the beauty of its trees and plantings; and

WHEREAS, trees release oxygen into our atmosphere while reducing carbon dioxide, provide habitat for wildlife, reduce the erosion of soil by wind and water, filter pollutants before they reach our waterways and reduce heating and cooling costs by moderating temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the City of Falls Church has been designated a “Tree City, USA” by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 43 consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, in 1892, the first observance of Arbor Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia took place in Falls Church at the old Jefferson School, organized by the Village Improvement Society (predecessor of the present Village Preservation and Improvement Society); and

WHEREAS, each April since 1974, Falls Church has held a city-wide celebration of Arbor Day, encouraging citizens to plant and care for trees; and

WHEREAS, the Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) has been selected as the 2021 “Tree of the Year” by the Falls Church Urban Forestry Commission; and

WHEREAS, Falls Church wishes to continue to manage its urban forest for the current and future environmental, social and economic benefits it can provide;

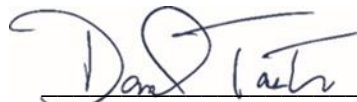
NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Tarter, Mayor of the City of Falls Church, Virginia, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2021 as

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Falls Church in recognition of the value that our community places on trees, and urge all to join in the celebration of that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the City to be affixed this 20th day of April, 2021.





David Tarter, Mayor