

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. From this idea sprouted Arbor Day, a holiday first observed with the planting of more than one million trees in Nebraska and now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS: Jacksonville citizens can again celebrate the holiday at Greenscape of Jacksonville's 2nd Annual Arbor Day Festival and Great Tree Giveaway on March 24, 2018, at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. This free event will educate attendees on the many benefits of our urban forest and will provide citizens with trees to be planted throughout our city; and

WHEREAS: As a Tree City USA community for more than two decades, Jacksonville meets the four core standards of sound urban forestry management: the city maintains a tree board or department, has a community tree ordinance, spends at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry, and celebrates Arbor Day. Greenscape of Jacksonville, Inc., a non-profit organization, is an important partner to the City of Jacksonville in our efforts to fulfill these requirements; and

WHEREAS: Founded in 1975, Greenscape's mission is to enrich the community through the planting, protection and promotion of trees. The organization is credited with adding more than 350,000 trees to our local tree canopy; and

WHEREAS: The Greenscape board of directors, members and community supporters work year-round to raise awareness of the importance of trees to a city's beauty, livability and economic health. Jacksonville flourishes with the support of local organizations, like Greenscape, that are committed to serving and improving our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 24, 2018 as

ARBOR DAY

in Jacksonville and urge all citizens to join in the observance of this day to beautify our communities and to support efforts to protect and nurture our trees for the many benefits they provide.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this *22nd* day of *December*
in the year Two Thousand *Seventeen*

Lenny Curry
MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA