

Proclamation



Recognizing Earth Day & Arbor Day

WHEREAS, Earth Day is celebrated on April 22, 2023, and Arbor Day on April 28, 2023, and both days are times to recognize the importance of preserving our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, *Imagine Monroe* aspires that the City of Monroe is and will continue to be a “lively center surrounded by nature.... A place of beauty...” where our “parks, waterways, and environment are healthy and accessible for everyone to enjoy....” where “we strengthen connections through gathering spaces” that create “a safe place for all” to call home and to belong; and

WHEREAS, the City of Monroe recognizes the benefits of its urban forests for improving air and water quality, providing vegetative buffers to development, producing habitat for wildlife, and generally enhancing the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Park Board initiated a Heritage Tree Program to increase public awareness and appreciation of Monroe’s heritage and Pacific Northwest character; and

WHEREAS, I have initiated a “Living Christmas Tree Program” in 2018 to offer the opportunity for residents to donate their used, living Christmas trees for planting in Monroe’s parks and open spaces; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Arbor Day Foundation recognized the City of Monroe as a Tree City USA; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Arbor Day Foundation awarded the City of Monroe a Tree City USA Growth Award; and

WHEREAS, students of Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Sager Fifth Grade Classes from Frylands Elementary School will assist in the ceremonial planting of an Arbor Day tree, donated by a group of gardening friends in honor of Monroe Garden Club will take place at Lake Tye Park on Friday afternoon, April 28, 2023 at 1:15pm.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor of the City of Monroe, do recognize

April 22, 2023, as

Earth Day

and April 28, 2023 as

Arbor Day

And for the month of April, the Tree City USA flag will be flown under the City of Monroe flag at Unity Plaza on the municipal campus and I invite residents, employers, and visitors, in our community to join me in recognizing the importance of preserving and enhancing our natural environment.

Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor