

PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS, in 1872 more than a million trees were planted in Nebraska to celebrate the first Arbor Day, which is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

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

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

WHEREAS, trees can help offset the greenhouse effect by turning carbon dioxide, the primary cause of global warming, into life-giving oxygen; and

WHEREAS, the planting of trees in Fort Collins will also help conserve energy use by shading and cooling buildings and pavement; and

WHEREAS, Fort Collins has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to recognize Zach Elementary School which has been selected as the Arbor Day School site for this year's tree planting ceremony to be held on April 25; and

WHEREAS, the City also wishes to recognize the Platte River Power Authority for maintaining a strong commitment to the environment when planning new sources of electricity whether through wind power, hydroelectricity, or planting trees; and

WHEREAS, the Platte River Power Authority focuses on the future through green-tinted glasses and has again given the City \$1,250 to purchase the trees that will be planted for Arbor Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ray Martinez, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim April 25 as

ARBOR DAY

in the city of Fort Collins and urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, to support our city's urban forestry program by planting trees for present and future generations and to thank the Platte River Power Authority for its generous donation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 15th day of April, A.D. 2003.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk