

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 is now observed throughout the nation and the world,
- WHEREAS, Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving 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 Town increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and
- WHEREAS, Trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and
- WHEREAS, Sturbridge has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways,

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Selectmen of Sturbridge do hereby proclaim April 29, 2016 as ARBOR DAY in the Town of Sturbridge. We urge all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands, support our Town's community forestry program, and plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Board of Selectmen:

Mary Blanchard
Michael Suprenant — Mary Dowling