



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, which is now called **Arbor Day** and was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, 2021 is the **149th anniversary** of **Arbor Day** which is now observed throughout the nation and world; and

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

WHEREAS, not only are trees a renewable resource, they also increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, March 19th is **Arbor Day** in North Carolina, and **Keep Gastonia Beautiful** will observe **Arbor Day** across the City, urging citizens to plant trees in their neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Gastonia has been named Tree City USA for our 20th year, and on that day shall receive this award.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor, and the City Council of the City of Gastonia do hereby proclaim **March 19, 2021** as

ARBOR DAY

and support **Keep Gastonia Beautiful Arbor Day Celebrations** and urge all citizens to celebrate **Arbor Day** by supporting the efforts to protect our trees and woodlands; and encourage all citizens to plant trees in Gastonia for our future generations.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed this the 16th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne Gibbs, City Clerk