



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

GEORGIA ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS: The first Arbor Day was celebrated in 1872 as a special day for the appreciation of trees. Today, it has grown to thousands of celebrations in communities across our nation each year; and

WHEREAS: Community partners will be joined together at local Arbor Day ceremonies and at a statewide celebration at the Chattahoochee Nature Center in Roswell to recognize the benefits of trees and urban forests; and

WHEREAS: All of Georgia benefits from forestry, which contributes \$27.2 billion annually to our state's economy and provides employment for more than 118,000 people; and

WHEREAS: Trees will be planted across the state creating a lasting legacy for future generations. Trees improve air and water quality, reduce the erosion of precious topsoil, increase property values and economic vitality in business areas, provide shade and habitat for wildlife, and promote human physical and mental well-being in Georgia Citizens; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 17, 2011, as ARBOR DAY in Georgia and encourage our citizens to plant trees, thus promoting the well-being of present and future generations.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

C. W. 12

CHIEF OF STAFF