



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 planting trees and has grown to thousands of celebrations in communities across our nation each year; and

WHEREAS: Community trees improve public health and air and water quality, reduce the erosion of precious topsoil, increase property values and economic vitality in business areas, increase energy efficiency through shade, provide habitats for wildlife, and beautify neighborhoods, parks, streets and residential developments; and

WHEREAS: Community forestry leaders and partners, abiding by safety guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic, will be joined together in a virtual celebration of the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA, Tree Campus USA and Tree Line USA programs and the Georgia Forestry Commission's urban and community forestry program; and

WHEREAS: All of Georgia benefits from urban and community forestry, which contributes more than \$4 billion to our state's economy and provides employment for more than 48,000 people; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 18, 2022 as GEORGIA ARBOR DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 14th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



B.P.K.
GOVERNOR

ATTEST
Matthew Kilpatrick
CHIEF OF STAFF