



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:** The Georgia Forestry Commission's urban and community forestry programs continue to make great strides on projects that will improve tree canopy and bring increased environmental, economic, and social benefits to all communities throughout the state; and
- WHEREAS:** On Georgia Arbor Day, community forestry leaders and partners will join together to celebrate and recognize the important initiatives around this great state to increase tree coverage and growth; and
- WHEREAS:** Georgia Forestry Commission's Arbor Day programs encourage citizens to plant trees and to leave a legacy for present and future generations; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 16, 2024, 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 22nd day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.



B. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Lauren M. Curry
CHIEF OF STAFF