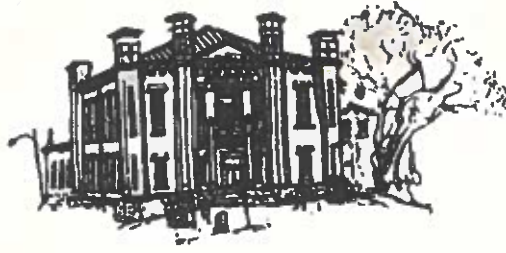


# PROCLAMATION



City of Northampton  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Arbor Day**  
April 25, 2025

WHEREAS, Since 1872, a special day has been set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, The 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; and

WHEREAS, Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce 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, Since 2015, the city has planted over 2,400 new trees. In 2024 alone, Northampton's tree program planted 230 new public shade trees and pruned 330 young trees, supported by more than 1,500 volunteer hours. These efforts included tree planting, site selection, pruning, summer tree care, nursery inventory, volunteer coordination, Arbor Day activities, and more; and

WHEREAS, Northampton's vibrant urban forestry program has gained regional and international attention with our own Tree Warden, Rich Parasiliti, being named 2019 Massachusetts Tree Warden of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Integrating urban forestry more significantly into sustainable planning initiatives for Northampton is essential to protecting, promoting, and expanding our city's tree canopy; and

NOW,  
THEREFORE, I, Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor of the City of Northampton, do hereby proclaim April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to be

**Arbor Day**

in Northampton, and urge all residents to celebrate and support our precious tree canopy for the well-being of this and future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the seal of the City of Northampton on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year 2025.



  
Gina-Louise Sciarra  
Mayor