



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DAN PIKE

MAYORAL 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; and

WHEREAS, This holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, The Tree City USA program, sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation, provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities that more than 93 million Americans call home

WHEREAS, To qualify for Tree City USA, a town or city must meet four standards established by The National Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters: 1) have a tree board or department; 2) enact a tree care ordinance, 3) establish a community forestry program that is supported by an annual budget of at least \$2.00 per capita, and 4) hold an annual Arbor Day celebration; and

WHEREAS, The City of Bellingham has been a "Tree City" for the past 12 years; and

WHEREAS, Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

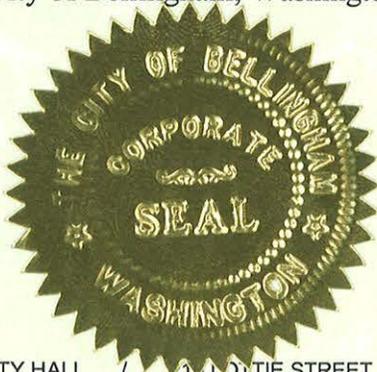
WHEREAS, Trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, Trees, wherever they are planted, are a resource we can all enjoy;

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim Saturday, September 26, 2009 to be

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees.



Signed this 19th day of August 2009.

Dan Pike, Mayor
City of Bellingham