

STATE OF OREGON  
**PROCLAMATION**  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** Last summer's record-shattering heat wave in Oregon reminded everyone of the vital role our urban and rural forests play in buffering people from climate change impacts through their shade and ability to cool surrounding air, potentially saving lives and reducing energy use; and
- WHEREAS:** Oregonians rely more heavily than ever during the COVID-19 pandemic on tree-filled parks and natural areas as places of respite, joy, spiritual renewal, exercise, and social interaction because healthy trees have a positive impact on mental health and community resilience; and
- WHEREAS:** Historic and ongoing inequities have kept people with lower incomes, people of color, and other vulnerable or marginalized groups from being able to share equally in the many benefits provided by trees. Planting and caring for trees in underserved areas will help address this injustice; and
- WHEREAS:** There should be more than just a single day or week to participate in tree-related activities, reflect on trees' vital contributions to our individual and communal well-being, and honor and celebrate the tree stewardship of local leaders and volunteers in Oregon's 70 Tree City USA communities and eight Tree Campus USA schools. All Oregonians have a stake in the future health and replenishment of our urban and rural forests.

**NOW,**

**THEREFORE:** I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **April 2022** to be

**OREGON ARBOR MONTH**

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, February 16, 2022.



Kate Brown, Governor

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State