



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
Planning and Community Development Department  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager  
**From:** Deb Powers, Urban Forester  
**Date:** October 18, 2011  
**Subject:** Kirkland Arbor Day 2011 Proclamation

**RECOMMENDATION**

City Council declares November 12, 2011 as Arbor Day in the City of Kirkland.

**BACKGROUND DISCUSSION**

Attached is the proclamation declaring **Saturday, November 12, 2011** as Arbor Day in the City of Kirkland. The Mayor, City Council and the public are invited to attend a natural area restoration planting in Juanita Bay Park from 9am to noon. A commemorative tree planting will take place at noon to celebrate Kirkland Arbor Day.

The event is being hosted by the Green Kirkland Partnership and managed by the EarthCorps partnership and Native Plant Stewards. Participants and volunteers are welcome to join in planting native trees and shrubs in areas of Juanita Bay Park that have been previously cleared of invasive vegetation.

This proclamation, along with the Arbor Day celebration, will fulfill one of the four standards required for Kirkland to maintain its Tree City USA status for the Year 2011. The Tree City USA designation from the National Arbor Day Foundation requires annual renewal in order to show that the City has met all four standards:

1. A community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita
2. A tree board or department
3. A tree care ordinance
4. An Arbor Day proclamation and observance.

By meeting these standards in 2011, Kirkland will have maintained its status as a Tree City USA for 10 consecutive years. Kirkland is one of a limited number of cities in the state of Washington that has exceeded these standards and received Growth Awards for its achievements in community forestry.

cc: Sharon Rodman  
Paul Stewart



## A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

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### Proclaiming November 12, 2011 as Kirkland Arbor Day

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

**WHEREAS**, Washington, the "Evergreen State," has celebrated Arbor Day since 1917; and

**WHEREAS**, trees produce oxygen, clean the air, provide wildlife habitat, minimize the adverse impacts of impervious surfaces thus reducing the costs for storm water management and improving the overall quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, trees in Kirkland provide recreational benefit, increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, can be enjoyed by citizens and visitors and beautify our community making Kirkland the place to be; and

**WHEREAS**, Kirkland has shown gains in its urban tree canopy coverage, as measured in the 2011 study assessing the City's urban tree canopy; and

**WHEREAS**, Kirkland received its 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive Tree City USA award from the National Arbor Day Foundation in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, Kirkland's Arbor Day is an event with the Green Kirkland Partnership to plant native trees in Juanita Bay Park on Saturday, November 12, 2011, in honor of the City of Kirkland's commitment to urban forestry and natural areas restoration;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim November 12, 2011 as Kirkland Arbor Day and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree, to support the City's efforts to care for our trees and woodlands, and to support our community forestry program.

Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011

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Joan McBride, Mayor