



CITY OF KIRKLAND

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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Deb Powers, Urban Forester
Date: October 23, 2014
Subject: 2014 ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor proclaims November 8, 2014 as Arbor Day in the City of Kirkland.

BACKGROUND

Attached is the proclamation declaring Saturday, November 8, 2014 as Arbor Day in the City of Kirkland. The annual Arbor Day Celebration and forest restoration will take place at Everest Park from 10am to 2pm. Volunteers are invited to reconnect with nature and support stewardship efforts by planting native trees, shrubs and ground cover, and removing invasive plants.

Following a free pizza lunch for all volunteers provided courtesy of The Watershed Company, a ceremonial native tree planting will take place with Mayor Amy Walen, Ben Thompson from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and Kirkland Urban Forester Deb Powers.

Since 2001, Kirkland has celebrated its autumnal Arbor Day to coincide with a Green Kirkland Partnership forest restoration project. The event brings together different groups of staff and volunteers – all working together for a healthy, sustainable urban forest in Kirkland.

By annually meeting the National Arbor Day Foundation standards in 2014, Kirkland has maintained its status as a Tree City USA for thirteen consecutive years. In addition, Kirkland is one of a limited number of cities in the State of Washington that has received five Growth Awards for exceeding these standards.

Kirkland Urban Forester Deb Powers and Green Kirkland Partnership Supervisor Sharon Rodman are the recipients of the 2014 Arbor Day Proclamation.

cc: Sharon Rodman
Paul Stewart

Attachment: 2014 Arbor Day Proclamation



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming November 8, 2014 as Kirkland Arbor Day

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is observed around the world to celebrate, plant, and care for trees and the state of Washington has celebrated Arbor Day since 1917; and

WHEREAS, by proclaiming and celebrating Arbor Day each year, Kirkland meets the National Arbor Day Foundation's 'Tree City USA' criteria; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate Arbor Day, Green Kirkland Partnership volunteers plant an abundance of native trees, restoring the City's natural areas and contributing to a healthy, sustainable urban forest; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland's adopted Urban Forestry Strategic Management Plan will implement well-coordinated, consistent, efficient and sustainable management of the City's tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, trees absorb air pollutants and particulate matter; reduce the urban heat island effect; slow and clean surface water runoff, thereby improving water quality; increase property values and make Kirkland a healthier, more desirable community,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amy Walen, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 8th, 2014 as Kirkland Arbor Day in celebration of the benefits of trees and the importance of caring for them.

Signed this 3rd day of November, 2014

Amy Walen, Mayor