



## CITY OF KIRKLAND

Planning and Community Development Department  
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### MEMORANDUM

**To:** David Ramsay, City Manager  
**From:** Deb Powers, Urban Forester  
**Date:** November 2, 2009  
**Subject:** Kirkland Arbor Day 2009 Proclamation and Invitation

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve attached proclamation.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Attached is the proclamation declaring **Saturday, November 14, 2009** as Arbor Day in the City of Kirkland. The Mayor, City Council and the public are invited to attend a natural area restoration planting and commemorative tree planting ceremony in Cotton Hill Park from 9am to noon.

The event is being co-hosted by the City of Kirkland and the Green Kirkland Partnership. Participants and volunteers are welcome to join the Green Kirkland Partnership in planting native trees and shrubs in areas of Cotton Hill Park that have been previously cleared of invasive vegetation. The Arbor Day festivities conclude at noon with Kirkland Mayor Jim Lauinger planting a native conifer to celebrate Arbor Day.

This proclamation, along with the Arbor Day Ceremony, will fulfill one of the four standards required for Kirkland to become a Tree City USA for the Year 2009. 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. Urban forest budget of at least \$2 per capita
2. An urban forestry board or related body
3. Tree regulation
4. Proclamation and celebration of Arbor Day.

Arbor Day 2009 will provide the criteria for Kirkland's 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as Tree City USA.

cc: Sharon Rodman



## A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

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### Designating November 14, 2009 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 can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, beautify our community which improves the quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, trees wherever planted in Kirkland can be enjoyed by citizens and visitors, making Kirkland the place to be;

**WHEREAS**, Kirkland received its 7th Tree City USA award from the National Arbor Day Foundation in 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, Kirkland's Arbor Day is a ceremony with the Green Kirkland Partnership to plant a native conifer in Cotton Hill Park on Saturday, November 14, 2009, at noon in honor of the City of Kirkland's commitment to urban forestry and native areas restoration;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, James Lauinger, Mayor of the City of Kirkland, Washington, do hereby proclaim November 14, 2009 as Kirkland Arbor Day.

**FURTHER**, I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree today, so others may live tomorrow.

Signed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2009

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James L. Lauinger, Mayor