

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY – Last Friday in April



Each year in April, National Arbor Day encourages us to celebrate and plant trees. The observance takes place each year on the last Friday in April.

Trees provide vital protection for the Earth's topsoil from erosion, oxygen, and homes for wildlife. They also are a renewable resource that provides a variety of materials for building, fuel, and office supplies.

Trees beautify our environment, provide shade on a sunny day, and improve our quality of life. The day celebrates all these things and aims for American generations to enjoy all the benefits trees have to offer.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalArborDay

Celebrate the day by planting a tree today. You can also spend time caring for trees in your area. Join an event near you or organize one in your community. Consider the trees you plant, too. While you may look for fast-growing trees so that you may enjoy the tree during your life-time, planting a slower growing tree is an investment in the future. Generations to come will enjoy the shade and beauty of the tree long after we're gone. And leaving something as precious as a tree behind is quite the investment. Download and print the **color page** for the day. Share them with us when complete! Share your celebration experiences using #NationalArborDay on Social Media.

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY HISTORY

On April 10, 1872, journalist and newspaper editor J. Sterling Morton established Arbor Day in the state of Nebraska with hopes that it would spread across the country. This

first celebration challenged the people of Nebraska to plant as many trees as they possibly could. Since the pioneers missed the trees and forests of the east, they answer the challenge by planting more than 1 million trees that very first year. To learn more about the history of National Arbor Day, visit the website at www.nationalarbordayfoundation.com.