

P R O C L A M A T I O N

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 holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and
- WHEREAS,** trees 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 are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and
- WHEREAS,** trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and
- WHEREAS,** trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and
- WHEREAS,** Muscatine has been recognized as a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2013 as Arbor Day in the City of Muscatine, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Signed and sealed this 4th day of April, 2013.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor