Whereas: The City of Bellevue has adopted the goal of integrating the natural and built environments

to create a sustainable urban habitat; and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue is dedicated to providing educational opportunities that achieve greater

environmental awareness, appreciation, and stewardship of our natural, cultural, and

historical resources; and

Whereas: Many residents have chosen to live in Bellevue due to its clean air, water and beautiful

habitat for wildlife; and

Whereas: Trees are essential to the protection of salmon because they provide shade along streams

and preserve water quality by preventing erosion; and

Whereas: Trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas,

and beautify our community; and

Whereas: Wherever planted, trees are a source of joy and celebration; and

Whereas: Bellevue, for the twenty-eighth consecutive year, has been recognized as a Tree City USA

community by the National Arbor Day Foundation and is dedicated to maintaining its tree-

planting practices; and

Whereas: Bellevue is committed to working with its residents and businesses at continuing to "build

a healthy community" by planting trees.

Now, therefore, I, John Chelminiak, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the **20**th of **April** as:

ARBOR DAY - EARTH DAY

in Bellevue and encourage citizens to observe this time by participating in both community-wide celebrations of the environment and in city beautification and enhancement projects.

Further, I urge all citizens to participate in the planting of trees so that we may advance the well-being of present and future generations.

John Chelminiak, Mayor
City of Bellevue