

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1872, a special day called Arbor Day, was set aside for the planting of trees;

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world;

WHEREAS, trees provide a pleasing environment for the benefit of our residents and visitors; increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of our business areas, and contribute greatly to Blacksburg's positive image;

WHEREAS, trees can be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing 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, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Sutphin, Mayor of the Town of Blacksburg, Virginia, do hereby proclaim **Saturday, April 11, 2026** as Arbor Day in the Town of Blacksburg, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

FURTHER, I encourage everyone to plant trees, bringing joy to our communities and supporting the health and well-being of both present and future generations.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2026.



Mayor Michael Sutphin