

## TOWN OF CLAYTON PROCLAMATION - ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton, who would become Secretary of Agriculture under President Grover Cleveland, proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for planting trees; and,

WHEREAS, the resulting holiday - Arbor Day - was first observed in that State with the planting of more than one million trees and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees are renewable resources that yield fruit and nuts for food and profit, wood for construction, fuel for warmth, paper products and a variety of other goods and materials; and

WHEREAS, trees intercept storm water, reduce runoff and erosion, clean air and water, produce oxygen, slow climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide, provide habitat for wildlife, and moderate air temperature; and

WHEREAS, when properly selected and tended appropriately, trees increase property values, enhance economic vitality of business districts, provide buffers from traffic and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

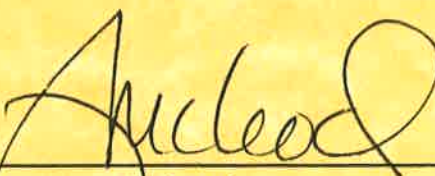
WHEREAS, the Town of Clayton achieved Tree City, USA status in 2006 and continues to maintain and improve our urban forest by the planting of additional trees to enhance our community; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day reminds us of the timeless observation by its founder, J. Sterling Morton, that "Each generation takes the earth as trustees;"

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED** by the Honorable Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Clayton, North Carolina, that Friday, March 21, 2014, be recognized as "Arbor Day" and we urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands. We encourage all citizens to plant trees to promote the well-being of this and future generations because a healthy urban forest can bring a sense of vibrancy or respite, adventure or calm and escape or contentment, amidst asphalt and concrete.

Duly proclaimed by the Clayton Town Council this 17th day of March 2014, while in regular session.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jody L. McLeod,  
Mayor