



ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION CITY of BELFAST, MAINE

Whereas, this holiday called Arbor Day was first observed in the U.S. during April 1872 by Nebraska homesteaders, who are said to have planted more than a million trees; and

Whereas, Arbor Day 2025 will be observed globally and in the U.S. with all 50 states participating, Maine being home to 19 Tree Cities USA; and

Whereas, in the past Belfast has not had the capacity to manage its public trees for long-term sustainability, even while recognizing our urban canopy has always been one of the City's most important attractions, deserving protection and care; and

Whereas, recent knowledge about trees has increased greatly, demonstrating trees' key contributions to a healthy natural world by moderating the temperature, enriching soils, preventing erosion, recycling water, cleaning the air, producing oxygen, sequestering carbon, providing food and shelter for all kinds of wildlife; and

Whereas, the Belfast community recognizes trees as a renewable resource suited to human needs, yielding timbers to build our homes, fuel for our fires or furnaces, shade for cooling, fruits for our nourishment; and

Whereas, our community has come to appreciate how generously trees increase the value of our properties, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and improve our streets, parks, and trails; and

Whereas, trees everywhere are a source of joy and beauty, and have become symbols of humanity's hope for a future, achievements lofty and long-standing;

Now, Therefore, I, Eric Sanders, Mayor of the City of Belfast, do hereby proclaim

**Friday, April 25, as
ARBOR DAY**

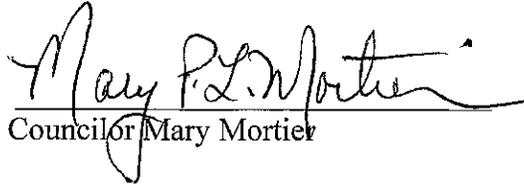
and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and help protect our trees and woodlands.

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Dated this 15th day of April, 2025.



Mayor Eric Sanders



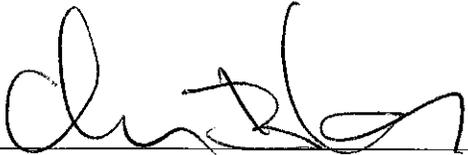
Councilor Mary Mortier



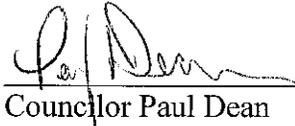
Councilor Neal Harkness



Councilor Brenda Bonneville



Councilor Chris Bitely



Councilor Paul Dean