

## *PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS,*

As our trees have begun to bloom and flower, we celebrated Arbor Day on Saturday, April 27, 2024 during our Earth Fest: Celebrate the Earth event; and,

*WHEREAS,*

In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for planting of trees and Arbor Day was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and,

*WHEREAS,*

Trees and urban forest are an important component of our community's infrastructure. Trees reduce topsoil erosion caused by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife. Trees and urban forest also extend the life of our community's streets and reduce storm water runoff; and,

*WHEREAS,*

Trees and urban forest help to reduce water pollution and the need to treat an integral part of our community's healthy water supply and also may improve the concentration of school age children allowing them to perform at a higher level in school and make better life choices; and,

*WHEREAS,*

Trees in our city increase property values, make our neighborhoods more inviting and attractive, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community.

*NOW, THEREFORE,* I, John Pribonic, Mayor of the City of Stow, Ohio do hereby proclaim that Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 was Arbor Day in Stow. Thank you to all the residents that participated in the Earth Fest activities at Adell Durbin Park. All Earth Fest participants received a free tree. I urge all residents to plant trees, and support efforts to protect and nurture our trees and urban forest.



*IN WITNESS WHEREOF,* I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Stow, Ohio to be affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2024.

A blue ink signature of John Pribonic, Mayor of the City of Stow, Ohio, is written over a horizontal line.

John Pribonic, Mayor