

City of Bellevue Nebraska

Office of the Mayor

Earth Day Proclamation 2024

WHEREAS: April 22 has marked Earth Day each year for over 50 years. At the first event, an estimated 22 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to urge America to come together and clean up its air and water systems. The event inspired a world-wide response that resulted in the passage of landmark environmental laws around the globe and efforts to promote green and sustainable practices in local communities to this day, and

WHEREAS: We recognize that despite decades of environmental progress, momentous challenges remain, including significant loss of biodiversity and climate challenges to the health and well-being of all the inhabitants of the earth. We each play a role in conserving, protecting, and appreciating our natural resources, and

WHEREAS: An educational Earth Day in Bellevue program will be held from 1:30pm – 3:30pm on April 14, 2024, at Bellevue University. Earth Day 2024 includes a call by Earthday.org for a 60% reduction in single-use plastic production by 2040. And we further request the community to increase native plant abundance and reduce the use of pesticides to protect bees, monarchs, and other endangered insects. Action is needed now to ensure a sustainable future for generations to come, and

WHEREAS: On this observance of Earth Day, as your Mayor, I ask you to join me in preserving our natural habitat, reducing plastic consumption, and educating ourselves and others on the pressing environmental issues.

Now Therefore, I Mayor Rusty Hike have the distinct honor of
Proclaiming April 14, 2024
Earth Day in Bellevue, NE.

Rusty Hike, Mayor



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Arbor Day Proclamation 2024

WHEREAS in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees, *and*

WHEREAS this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, *and*

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

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 in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, *and*

WHEREAS 2024 marks the 152nd Anniversary of Arbor Day, *and*

WHEREAS trees — wherever they are planted — are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rusty Hike, Mayor of the City of Bellevue do hereby proclaim as **ARBOR DAY** In the City of Bellevue, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, *and* **FURTHER**, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.



Rusty Hike Mayor