



**Whereas**, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day 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 reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide 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**, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal. **Now, Therefore, I, LARRY PINE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ENNIS**, do hereby proclaim The Last Friday in April, April 28, 2017 as ARBOR DAY in the CITY OF ENNIS and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support the 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.

The Town of Ennis, a Tree City USA for seven years, has been awarded an Arbor Foundation grant, and a Dept of Natural Resources Urban Forestry grant to develop a green-space adjacent to Town Hall. The Town of Ennis was able to leverage funds already budgeted, to remove an abandoned trailer and build a fence on the property, to fulfill the required match of the \$7,000 awarded grant. Planting a variety of trees in this green space will bring more diversification to our publicly owned trees as recommend by the DNRC. A pollinator garden, living fence, and locally sourced wood are additional components in making this former service station an area for public enjoyment. Ennis' Arbor Day Celebration is scheduled for Friday April 28th, 10:15am at the green space just north of Ennis Town Hall. The celebration includes Ennis' Tree Board presentation of saplings to 5th grade class, talk by GROWW Coordinator-Nichole Walker, planting of ceremonial tree and live music by Ethan Kunard. All community members welcome, refreshments served.