



Mayoral Proclamation

WHEREAS, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton of Nebraska proposed "Arbor Day," a secular day of observance to recognize the importance of tree planting and preservation, an initiative later endorsed by every U.S. state, including North Carolina in 1967; and,

WHEREAS, planting and preserving trees is good business, providing a renewable resource for countless wood products, and increases residential property values, enhances the economic vitality of business areas, and beautifies our community; and,

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of precious topsoil by wind and water, moderate the temperature, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and,

WHEREAS, trees filter out harmful particulate matter and other pollutants common in the urban or suburban areas, including rapidly growing areas such as southern Wake County, North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, trees shade our houses from the sun and provide insulation and create windbreaks, keeping heating and cooling costs during the extreme temperatures of summer and winter lower; and,

WHEREAS, trees are a major factor in carbon sequestration, and CO₂ is a major contributor to global warming that trees put to good use rather than causing harm in the atmosphere; and,

WHEREAS, research shows that trees planted in the city make people happier, reducing stress levels, crime rates, and recovery time for medical patients; and,

WHEREAS, preserving our town's character and identity, as well as its quality of life, are two of the six "core values" of the Town of Fuquay-Varina's Strategic Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Land Use Ordinance for the Town of Fuquay-Varina already mandates planning practices to provide a transition between existing and new development by adequate vegetative separation to create a "sense of place" and "protect natural resources" (§ 9-1004), with the intent of creating and enhancing "green infrastructure throughout the Town" (§ 9-1005),

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Blake Massengill, Mayor of the Town of Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina do hereby proclaim April 9, 2022, as Arbor Day in the Town of Fuquay-Varina 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 and care for trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.



FUQUAY-VARINA, NORTH CAROLINA

J. Blake Massengill

J. Blake Massengill, Mayor