## Arbor Day Proclamation, 2024

## Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts

Whereas, Arbor Day celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care. It was initiated in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton of Nebraska City who said "Other holidays focus upon the past; Arbor Day focuses on the future". Arbor Day is now celebrated throughout the nation and the world.

Whereas, trees are important, we couldn't live without them: they clean the air and produce the oxygen we breathe. They provide habitat for wildlife and help to keep the climate in balance. They give us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products.

Whereas, trees increase property values, and enhance the beauty and vitality of our community.

Whereas, planting trees is an act of kindness and optimism. The celebration of Arbor Day represents a priceless opportunity for all of you to take positive actions and make your world a better place.

Therefore, we, the members of the Selectboard of the Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to be known as ARBOR DAY in Great Barrington, and we urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day planting and caring for trees, and to support efforts in our Town to protect our trees.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands this 22<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

Stephen Bannon

Leigh Davis

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Benjamin Elliot

Members of the Great Barrington Selectboard