

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

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. Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS: Arbor Day is an annual tradition in Arkansas, celebrating the role trees play in our lives and in our future; and

WHEREAS: Trees make direct and visible contributions to our health, safety, and economy by providing clean air and water, erosion control, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, essential wood products, and beautiful landscapes; and

WHEREAS: Trees instill community pride and a commitment to conservation; they increase property values, and planting trees is a great way to leave a valuable gift for future generations to enjoy; and

WHEREAS: Tree planting efforts continue to promote the importance of trees and symbolically represent a commitment to the past, present, and future by creating a living legacy; and

WHEREAS: Healthy, diverse tree resources are vital components of any urban and rural planting efforts and particularly in re-establishment efforts following disastrous events;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as

**ARBOR DAY IN ARKANSAS**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2021.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



John Thurston, Secretary of State