

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, trees can beautify urban landscapes, reduce energy costs, and increase home values; keep our air clean to breathe and our water safe to drink; improve the physical and mental well-being of the public; and enhance the livability of our cities and towns; and

WHEREAS, trees in our communities sequester carbon from the atmosphere, decrease city temperatures on hot summer days, and mitigate the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, a thriving urban forest that is well-managed and properly cared for is an essential feature of cities that are vibrant, healthy, resilient, sustainable, and successful; and

WHEREAS, local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, private businesses, and the public have a shared responsibility for stewardship of community trees; and

WHEREAS, October is the best time to plant trees in Washington by taking advantage of the cooler temperatures and increased moisture, allowing newly-planted trees to become established in the landscape; and

WHEREAS, since 1991, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' Urban and Community Forestry Program has provided leadership to help cities and towns create self-sustaining urban forestry programs that preserve, plant, and manage forests and trees for public benefits and quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2020 as

Urban and Community Forestry Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance by reflecting on the value of trees to our communities and appreciating their many benefits.

Signed this 9th day of September, 2020

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee

