



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed 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; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, 40 percent of Idaho is covered in trees, with 21.4 million acres of forests; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of top soil, clean the air, store carbon, produce oxygen, cut heating and cooling costs, and provide wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, for each tree harvested in Idaho, seven more are grown for the future; and

WHEREAS, working forests contribute to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of Idaho's people and communities; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's working forests provide 22,000 jobs and \$3.7 billion to the economy; and

WHEREAS, trees are an abundant renewable and sustainable source of wood and paper products that are energy efficient and recyclable; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015 to be

## **ARBOR DAY**

in Idaho, and I urge all citizens to celebrate this day in observance of the important role trees play in our daily lives and the renewability of this precious resource.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-fifth.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY  
SECRETARY OF STATE