

MAYOR

James Dodge

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**ORLAND
PARK**

VILLAGE HALL

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**PROCLAMATION
EARTH DAY/ ARBOR DAY 2026**

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; and

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

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Orland Park has been recognized as a Tree City USA for 37 years by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Dodge, Mayor of the Village of Orland Park, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, do hereby proclaim **April 22, 2026** as **EARTH DAY** and **April 24, 2026** as **ARBOR DAY IN THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK**, and urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our environment and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Dated this 20th day of April, 2026

James Dodge
Mayor