

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermonters have long recognized the valuable contribution of trees and forests to the well-being of our state and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, trees and forests support our economy by creating jobs, increasing property values, conserving energy, and enhancing the retail experience in our downtown and village centers; and

WHEREAS, trees and forests support our environment by cleaning the air and water, providing a canopy for wildlife, and defending against climate change; and

WHEREAS, trees and forests support Vermonters by keeping us and our air healthy; and

WHEREAS, trees and forests make a difference by keeping Vermont more natural, beautiful, and strong; and

WHEREAS, on Arbor Day, Vermonters are encouraged to get involved in their local forests and get their hands dirty by planting and caring for trees and forests, an effort which has and will pay us back; and

WHEREAS, the first Friday in May is a day when Vermonters come together to celebrate trees and forests and all they provide.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 5, 2017 as

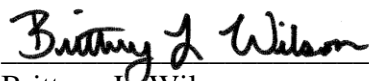
ARBOR DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of May, A.D. 2017.



Philip B. Scott
Governor



Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs