

Media Release



bluffton
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

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Town of Bluffton Celebrates Arbor Day By Planting A Cathedral Oak at Town Hall

Town of Bluffton elected officials, staff and members of the Town's Beautification Committee will celebrate Arbor Day by planting a Cathedral Oak at Town Hall Friday, April 26 at 8:30 a.m.

The Cathedral Oak will complement the landscaping around the newly-renovated Town Hall.

"Arbor Day is the perfect time to remind ourselves of the contributions trees make to our lives, providing natural beauty and shade as well as being habitats for birds and other animals," Mayor Lisa Sulka said. "Trees are also a symbol of new beginnings and Arbor Day is an opportunity to also commemorate Town Hall's newest chapter since it was renovated."

Town Manager Marc Orlando said maintaining the Tree City USA designation is important to Bluffton.

"Keeping simple and meaningful commitments, such as being a Tree City USA Community, is important to who we are as Town," Orlando said. "Planting a Cathedral Oak at Town Hall in celebration of Arbor Day is important and symbolic of our year-round commitment to take care of our natural resources and our Town."

The public is welcome to join the tree planting ceremony.

Tree City USA Community Designation

The Town of Bluffton, which has received a "Tree City USA Community" designation each year since 2012, plans to continue its efforts each year as it plants more trees throughout the community. Tree City USA awards this designation to cities and towns that maintain a tree board (i.e. Beautification Committee), pass a tree ordinance (i.e. tree protection laws), spend at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrate Arbor Day.

About Arbor Day:

Arbor Day has been celebrated throughout the world for nearly 150 years thanks to the vision of J. Sterling Morton. Morton, a former Nebraska newspaper editor and the former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under President Grover Cleveland, proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees. Arbor Day was first observed in Nebraska with the planting of nearly one million trees on April 10, 1872. Since then, communities around the globe have been celebrating the benefits of trees in urban and rural environments by planting trees once a year on Arbor Day.

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