

Media Release



bluffton
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

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Town of Bluffton Arbor Day Celebration at Red Cedar Elementary School

Mayor Lisa Sulka, members of Town Council and the Town's Beautification Committee will plant a Live Oak tree at Red Cedar Elementary School April 29th in honor of Arbor Day. They will also help distribute 700 tree seedlings to students and teachers.

Together with Town leaders, members of the Planetears Club will distribute Redbud and Dogwood tree seedlings to each student and teacher at the school. The Planetears Club is comprised of 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students who learn about the ecology as they perform activities to care for and protect natural resources and the environment. Club activities range from planting, collecting recyclables and using rain barrels.

"There's no better way to celebrate Arbor Day than to unite with our young student leaders to celebrate nature and the many benefits of trees to our environment," Mayor Lisa Sulka said.

The public is welcome to join the 9:30 a.m. tree planting ceremony, however, all visitors must register at the school's reception desk.

Tree City USA Community Destination

The Town of Bluffton, which has received a "Tree City USA Community" designation 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. Beautiful 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 about a 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.