

Proclamation

**ARBOR DAY
APRIL 24, 2026**

WHEREAS, trees offer numerous benefits, such as purifying the air, lowering energy costs, enhancing neighborhood beauty, supporting wildlife, and improving the overall quality of life for residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of **Arbor Day** encourages tree planting and promotes environmental awareness, emphasizing the care for trees that offer vital benefits to our community; and

WHEREAS, **Arbor Day** began with J. Sterling Morton, a Nebraska journalist, who proposed a day for planting trees in 1872. The first celebration on April 10, 1872, saw over 1 million trees planted in Nebraska. Today, **Arbor Day** is a national observance celebrated by millions, fostering appreciation and responsibility for trees; and

WHEREAS, the **Arbor Day** celebration encourages residents to plant trees, protect our green spaces, and educate one another about the importance of environmental sustainability.

WHEREAS, through the collective efforts of local citizens, organizations, and community leaders, the Village of Sugar Grove aims to create a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future for all residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jennifer Konen, President of the Village of Sugar Grove, along with the Village Board, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2026, as **Arbor Day** in the Village of Sugar Grove, and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands. I commend this observance.

FURTHERMORE, all residents, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to participate in this celebration by planting trees, caring for our environment, and supporting initiatives to preserve and expand our local green spaces. Together, let's continue to build a vibrant and sustainable community for future generations.

Dated this 21st day of April 2026

Sue Stillwell, Village President

Trustee Heidi Lendi
Trustee Tony Speciale

Trustee Matthew Bonnie
Trustee Nora London

Trustee Sean Michels
Trustee Michael Roskopf