



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida has one of the oldest Arbor Day celebrations in the Nation established as the third Friday of January beginning in 1886; and

**WHEREAS**, trees reduce the erosion of topsoil, cut cooling costs, clean the air, provide habitat for wildlife and beautify our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Ocala is blessed with an abundance of trees that add to the beauty of our community and the quality of our lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ocala City Council has demonstrated its commitment to preserving this community's trees by passing a special ordinance ensuring that trees will remain an integral part of our city's landscape; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ocala has earned Tree City USA and Tree Line USA designations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ocala in 2018 celebrated 28 consecutive years with a Tree City USA designation; and

**WHEREAS**, this year the observance of Florida Arbor Day on Friday, January 18, 2019 at the Tusawilla Art Park will include the planting of Florida native redbud trees; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby declare January 18, 2019, to be

## FLORIDA ARBOR DAY

in Ocala, Florida, do urge all citizens to plant Florida native flowering trees to beautify urban landscapes in and around the city.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.

Kent Guinn, Mayor  
City of Ocala

