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 Tuscawilla 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 8th day of January 2019.

Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala