## STATE OF MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT ST. PAUL

## PROCLAMATION.

In the springtime, man, confined during the winter in the habitats of modern civilization, longs for the fresh air, the trees, the birds, the lakes and streams. Our health, our happiness, our very existence, demand that we spend at least a part of our time in the pure air of the outdoors.

The present and future generations cannot get the full benefit of outdoor life unless our surroundings are kept clean, neat and verdant, and our groves and forests are protected and increased. As a part of our effort to preserve and promote the growth of trees, we have long devoted one day each year especially to the planting of trees.

In conformity with this custom, I, J. A. O. Preus, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby designate Friday, April 25th, 1924, as

## ARBOR AND BIRD DAY

and urge that it be observed throughout the state, by appropriate exercises in the schools and elsewhere.

Because of a growing realization of the importance of outdoor life as a giver of health and happiness, particularly to the young, and because of the ever-increasing need of effective steps to protect our trees and forests and promote their growth, Arbor Day is no longer an isolated event, but is the central day in a series of organized activities.

The entire week of April 21 to 27 has been designated by President Coolidge as Forest Protection Week, when it is urged that special attention be given to the prevention of forest fires. This is of utmost importance, because fire is the greatest menace to our forests, and it is useless to think of reforestation unless fires be kept out. Let us bend every possible effort to see that fires are prevented in Minnesota.

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-2-

The Tree Lovers' Association of America has requested that the week of April 27 to May 5 be observed as tree planting week. This plan I indorse most heartily, and I hope there will be not only study and instruction about trees, but much actual tree planting. I also hope our state will participate in the national cleanup campaign, for the removal of dirt and rubbish is a necessary counterpart of tree planting in any effort to beautify our environs.

(Seal)

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed hereto this Fifteenth day of March, 1924.

Attest:

Secretary of State.

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