

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Paula M. DeLaney

#00845
01/22/01

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the National Arbor Day Foundation has certified Gainesville as Tree City USA for the 17th consecutive year, and the City of Gainesville has received a National Arbor Day Foundation "Growth Award" for the tree portion of our weather "Emergency Recovery Plan" and for fixing our Land Development Code to better protect and renew our urban forest; and

WHEREAS, in November 2000, voters demonstrated their commitment to preserving environmentally sensitive land by passing the "Alachua County Forever" bond referendum which will enable the preservation of some of the remaining forested areas within our city; and

WHEREAS, 975 third graders from 13 Gainesville elementary schools have been celebrating Arbor Day by planting 43 trees to beautify their school grounds and raise their awareness of how easy it is to play an important part in protecting the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City Beautification Board hosted a community-wide celebration at the Sun Center that featured the planting of five Allee Elms in tree wells, so that the downtown Farmer's Market will one day be shaded; and

WHEREAS, the Four Seasons Garden Club planted two palm trees at the Thomas Center as part of their restoration of the historic landscape of one of our city's major cultural institutions; and

WHEREAS, during 2000, the Parks Division of the Recreation and Parks Department planted more than 1000 trees to renew Gainesville's tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, the 181" diameter Sand Rye Oak at 301 NW 8th Street has been recognized as the National Co-Champion Big Tree of the species *Quercus geminata* and marked with an informational plaque.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paula M. DeLaney, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim Friday, January 19th, 2001 as

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in celebration of all our efforts to protect and renew our urban forest.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this tenth day of January, A.D., 2001.



Paula M. DeLaney
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Mayor