WHEREAS, recognition should be given to the value of trees in our community and the need for a continual city-wide forestry program for the benefit of all persons; and

WHEREAS, the holiday to recognize the importance of trees in our lives, was proclaimed at the federal level in 1970, by President Richard Nixon and is celebrated the last Friday in April as National Arbor Day; and

WHEREAS, the National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, sponsor a project known as "Tree City USA" in an effort to make every community in America a better place in which to live; and

WHEREAS, the protection and proliferation of trees within the City of Delray Beach is governed by regulations for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, welfare, and aesthetic quality of the community by realizing the importance of trees for oxygen production, carbon dioxide absorption, dust and air pollution filtration, wind and noise reduction, soil erosion prevention, surface drainage improvement, energy conservation, beautification and aesthetic enhancement of all lands in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Delray Beach has been recognized as a "Tree City USA" community by the National Arbor Day Foundation for the 18th time; and

WHEREAS, the City of Delray Beach will celebrate Arbor Day with plantings in the month of April 2018; and

WHEREAS, the optimum time of the year for planting most species of trees in the Southeastern Florida is in the springtime due to the mild temperatures and the beginning of the wet season.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SHELLY PETROLIA, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2018 as:

"ARBOR DAY"

in the City of Delray Beach, Florida, and urge all citizens, schools, businesses and community organizations to join with me in recognizing the value and the need for trees within our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 17th day of April 2018.

SHELLY PETROLIA MAYOR