

## MDC Encourages Celebrating Trees During April Arbor Days

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) encourages Missourians to celebrate the value of Missouri trees and forests during Arbor Days in April by planting native trees and practicing proper tree care.

Missouri Arbor Day is Friday, April 6. Missouri has been observing the state's official Arbor Day on the first Friday in April since 1886 when the General Assembly declared that day be set aside for the appreciation and planting of trees. National Arbor Day is recognized on the last Friday of April, which is April 27 for 2018.

Get information from MDC on backyard tree care – including types of trees for urban and other landscapes, selecting the right tree for the right place, planting tips, watering and pruning info, and more -- at [mdc.mo.gov/tree-health](http://mdc.mo.gov/tree-health).

MDC's George O. White State Forest Nursery near Licking offers Missouri residents a variety of low-cost native tree and shrub seedlings for reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, and wildlife food and cover. Orders are accepted from Nov. 1 to April 15 every year. For more information, visit [mdc.mo.gov/seedlings](http://mdc.mo.gov/seedlings).

Communities around the state also hold local Arbor Day activities. For more information on Arbor Day and Missouri's Tree City USA communities, visit the Arbor Day Foundation at [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).

***DID YOU KNOW?*** Missouri forests cover about one-third of the state and provide outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, natural beauty, and watersheds for stream and rivers. Missouri forests also provide employment for more than 44,000 people who convert trees into essential products. Get more information at [mdc.mo.gov/forest](http://mdc.mo.gov/forest).