

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, trees are being planted across the State of Mississippi to provide a living memorial to those who lost their lives and loved ones in the September 11, 2001 attacks; and

WHEREAS, the unique beauty and diversity of our native trees provides a lasting impression to visitors, and lifelong memories for residents; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi's forest resource promotes economic development, improves quality of life, enhances environmental benefits, provides educational opportunities, and reduces the impacts of pollution; and

WHEREAS, our urban forests increase property values, mitigate the effects of pollution, provide for serenity and relaxation, beautify the landscape, and reduce energy consumption by shading and cooling our dwellings and urban "heat islands"; and

WHEREAS, trees in forest settings provide outdoor recreation opportunities and abundant habitat for wildlife:

NOW, THEREFORE I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby commend citizens for planting memorial groves of trees and proclaim February 8, 2002, as

ARBOR DAY

and the period of February 8-14, 2002, as

TREE PLANTING WEEK

in the State of Mississippi. I urge all citizens to pause and reflect on the living memorials planted for future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, January 25, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR