



**Village of Mount Prospect's mayor, Irvana K. Wilks, commemorates each Arbor Day planting ceremony with a newly penned poem.**

*Our words of dedication echo across  
a nation  
and join with the choruses of millions  
of others  
honoring this same April day.*

*One imagines that this sapling stands  
like a small sentry—  
a guard—next to this school built by  
faith. It is, however,  
we who are the sentries, promising to  
care and to protect it.*

*The sun and rain will nourish this  
linden.  
As it grows, stretching its branches  
into the vast sky,  
it will shade children who pass  
beneath laughing,*

*learning—generations of students  
we've not met.*

*In summer, the perfume of its  
flowers—delicate white clusters—  
will beckon to us. We will pause  
within the canopy of the fragrance  
and for an instant pretend to be on  
a tropical island.*

*And so it will be, the life of this linden  
and our lives*

Oak Lawn—TBA, 1 p.m.  
Orland Park—St. Michael School, 14355  
Highland Ave.; High Point School, 14825  
West Ave.; Jerling Junior High, 8851 W.  
151st St.  
Palos Hills—Town Square Park, 8455  
103rd St.  
Prospect Heights—TBA  
Wilmette—program with one elementary  
school; Arbor Day/Memorial Day service  
for 50 year city employee and fire chief  
**April 25, Saturday**  
Antioch—9 a.m.-noon at the Wm. E. Brook  
Entertainment Center, Skidmore Dr.  
Bloomington—10 a.m., Public Works  
Facility  
Elburn—TBA  
Evanston—1-4 p.m. Evanston Ecology Cen-  
ter, 2024 McCormick Blvd.  
Mt. Vernon—10 a.m.-1 p.m., Veterans  
Park, 800 South 27th St.  
Naperville—8 a.m.-noon, Arbor Day Tree  
Sale, New Public Works Facility, 180 Fort  
Hill  
North Barrington—Oak tree planting at  
9:30 a.m., North Barrington Village Hall  
(111 Old Barrington Rd.) to celebrate the  
village's 50th anniversary, followed by a  
program on using native plants in residen-  
tial landscaping.  
Northbrook—8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Arbor Day-  
Earth Day celebration, Village Green Park  
St. Charles—4 p.m., Lincoln Park, Route  
64 and N. 4th St.  
**April 26, Sunday**  
Moweaqua—2 p.m., Central A & M High  
School  
**May 2, Saturday**  
Hickory Hills - City Hall, 8652 W. 95th St.  
**June 7, Sunday**  
Alton—6 p.m., Gordon F. Moore Communi-  
ty Park, Nan Elliot Memorial Rose Garden,  
4550 College Ave.

Other municipalities celebrating Arbor  
Day  
Lake Barrington—TBA, recognition of  
Arbor Day as one of the 50th anniversary  
events  
Mackinaw—TBA, Veterans Park

*locked together—grownups, youth  
and the tree, because  
today we take shovels and cover its  
roots with rich, brown Illinois soil.*

*And then we make a promise.*

Be a part of the green scene, join  
your community and plant a tree on  
Arbor Day.

