

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,

## 2009 Illinois Arbor and Bird Day Events

Here are some of the Arbor and Bird Day events taking place this year. All Illinois Tree City USA communities have an Arbor Day tree planting event. Contact your local municipal representatives for further details.

April 17, Friday Centralia—Fairview Park April 18, Saturday

Oswego—Earth/Arbor Day and Recycling Extravaganza, Public Works Facility

Week of April 20

Scott Air Force Base—TBA Hazel Crest—five schools and on the 25th at Openlands, 17120 Holmes Ave.

**April 20, Monday** O'Fallon—LaVerna Evans Grade School

April 23, Saturday Orland Park—Century Junior High, 10801 W. 159th St.; Meadow Ridge, 10959 W. 159th St.; Centennial School, 14101 Creek

Crossing Dr. April 24, Friday – State of Illinois designated Arbor/Bird Day

Arlington Heights—Greenbrier Park
Barrington—various grade schools
Bloomington—Trinity Lutheran School
Bolingbrook—TBA
Buffalo—TBA

Champaign—10 a.m., West Side Park, 400 W. University Ave.

Des Plaines—TBA

DuQuoin—TBA

Highland Park—9 a.m., Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Road. Limited space. Call in advance at (847) 926-1149.

Hinsdale—TBA

Hoffman Estates—10:30 a.m., Arbor Day Park, intersection of Downing Drive and Sumac Trail

Glencoe-Glencoe Central School

Lanark—TBA

Lisle—TBA

Marquette Heights—TBA

Mount Carroll—TBA

Northfield—TBA

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. Bloomingdale—10 a.m., Public Works Facility

Elburn—TBA

Evanston—1-4 p.m. Evanston Ecology Center, 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 residential 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 Community 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

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

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.