



### THE HISTORY OF ARBOR DAY

It all began in Nebraska in 1872, when journalist Julius Sterling Morton succeeded in convincing the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture to set aside a special day for planting trees, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The latter offered prizes to other countries to reward participation and effort.

### ARBOR DAY IN BARBADOS

Barbados is among the many countries around the world to have adopted the celebration. On July 08, 1907, 2 years after the earliest records of the first Arbor Day in Barbados, the Government passed the Preservation Trees Act, placing an incentive for the public to plant trees while protecting the land on which trees grow. National Arbor Day was re-established in Barbados on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 1997 (to honor the Anniversary of Hurricane Janet).

Picture of S. Morton.



Interested persons, social, school & community groups may contact the National Arbor Day Committee at the National Conservation Commission at:

Phone: 425-1200

Fax: 424-9415

Email: [ncc@caribsurf.com](mailto:ncc@caribsurf.com)

VISIT OUR NURSERY & GARDEN CENTRE, LOCATED AT CODRINGTON  
OUR FRIENDLY, KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF AWAITS YOU.

Palm Trees @ Wanstead Ridge



NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COME CELEBRATE



# Arbor Day

With the NCC!

**“Together  
Re-vegetate &  
Educate to  
Ensure Earth’s  
Survival”**

In Collaboration with McGill University & UWI, Cave Hill Campus



## THE BENEFIT OF TREES

Trees serve many social, community, environmental and economic purposes:

- Beauty & shade, enhance architecture
- Sound buffers, filter dust and pollen
- Provide areas for relaxation & recreation
- Sequester carbon dioxide
- Energy conservation (less demand for air conditioning)
- Environmental cooling
- Maintain fresh water supply/ replenish the underground water aquifers
- Better water quality, less run-off
- Roots stabilize the soil & prevent erosion
- Habitat for animals, birds and micro-organisms
- Increase value of domestic and commercial property
- Food source, medicinal benefits

Plant trees! It's the perfect opportunity to give back to the environment .

Government Headquarters © NCC

## TREE TRIVIA TIME!

**Q:** What is the widest tree in the world?

**A:** A banyan tree in India is said to fit 2000 people under its 150 foot canopy.

**Q:** What is the oldest living thing on earth?

**A:** A bristlecone pine tree around 4,000 years old.

**Q:** Name the term for trees that lose their leaves or needles each year?

**A:** "Deciduous" trees.

**Q:** What part of a tree transports food from the leaves to the rest of the tree?

**A:** The phloem.

**Q:** How do growing trees help combat global warming?

**A:** Growing trees take in carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas!

**Q:** What part of a tree is considered royal?

**A:** The crown!



Four-hour Planting, East Coast  
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## FOR THE LOVE OF NATURE & THE FUTURE OF MANKIND

Although Arbor Day has been celebrated for well over 100 years, its relevance today is as strong as it was when the day was first celebrated. When people wonder "why is Arbor Day important?" they only have to look at the destruction and long-term damage of deforestation to the environment to realize that these issues are as important today as they have ever been.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Plant a tree if you can! It may not seem that you are making a big difference, but collectively you will all contribute in an important way. You are now aware of the positive impact trees have on our environment and by extension our very survival. You may:

- Initiate a beautification programme for your home, school, workplace, and/or community
- Research and document information on interesting trees found in Barbados. (eg. The Sand Box)
- Collect some tree seeds, germinate them, and plant out the seedlings.
- Identify and label all trees.
- Use mediums available (internet, library) to learn more about trees
- Encourage family and friends to become involved

Trees can no longer be taken for granted and it is important that we all learn more about trees and the role that they play in order to fully appreciate their place in the environment.

*LOVE NATURE – CHOOSE LIFE*