



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, forests, covering one-third of the land in the U.S., help provide all Americans with clean drinking water, clean air, abundant wildlife habitat; renewable wood for buildings, furniture, energy, and paper needs, space to recreate, as well as good-paying well-paying jobs across our state; and

WHEREAS, most of our nation's forests are owned by individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, seventy-five years ago, the American Tree Farm System® was founded to help family and individual woodland owners sustain their forests and the benefits we all receive from them; and

WHEREAS, the American Tree Farm System remains a strong and essential program today to conserve our state's forests and their benefits, especially in the face of growing pressures such as wildfires, insects and diseases, and development pressures; and

WHEREAS, Tree Farmers invest time, manpower and personal funds to practice sustainable forest management on their land so we can enjoy all the benefits these forests provide us; and

WHEREAS, ATFS is made possible by volunteers from the local small woodlands associations, conservation organizations, forest products companies, university extensions and our own Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the accomplishments of ATFS upon the seventy-fifth anniversary of its creation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 12, 2016 as

*American Tree Farm Program
Anniversary Day*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this sixth day of June, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Ricketts

Secretary of State