



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day was first observed with the planting of more than one million trees in Nebraska, and is now observed in Tennessee, throughout the nation and around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the planting and proper maintenance of landscape trees enhances the economic vitality of business areas, increases property values, cuts heating and cooling costs, moderates the temperature, cleans our air, beautifies our communities, and improves our quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day is a unique celebration, focusing not on the past but on the future; and

**WHEREAS**, all Tennesseans want to work to preserve and perpetuate our heritage of trees and forests across the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of Arbor Day is to encourage the planting of forest trees to enhance our rural landscapes, provide forest products and jobs for forest industries, reduce the erosion of our topsoil, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, the state wishes to recognize Knoxville for hosting the State Arbor Day Celebration, and extends a thank you to all the Tree Boards, Commissions and Committees for their efforts to improve our cities and towns that make Tennessee a great place to live, work and play;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 1, 2013, as

## ARBOR 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 fourth day of February, 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jeff Raab".

Secretary of State