

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2017

City of Renton Contacts

[Terrance Flatley](#), Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Manager, 425-430-6001

[Preeti Shridhar](#), Deputy Public Affairs Administrator, 425-430-6569



City of Renton celebrates Arbor Day and Earth Day on April 29

Heritage Park to receive new trees, plants, flowers, and playground chips

RENTON, WA – The City of Renton will celebrate our commitment to the environment and community by holding the annual Arbor Day and Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 29, at Heritage Park. The celebration will include volunteers caring for existing trees, planting additional trees, shrubs, and flowers, weeding, and spreading mulch.

“I encourage all our citizens to take time and do something special to commemorate Arbor Day and Earth Day,” said Mayor Denis Law. “It’s the perfect time for our community to come together not only for the good of our environment, but to preserve the planet for future generations.”

City staff and volunteers will plant 30 trees at Heritage Park. They will also plant 75 heather, 45 daylily plants, and 840 annual flowers. Mulch will also be applied and chips added to the playground.

The planting and care of trees has proven to be one of the most effective ways to protect the environment through the prevention of soil erosion, production of oxygen, and improvement of fish and wildlife habitats.

The City of Renton currently has over 136,000 trees in natural areas, parks, along streets, and other city properties. Since the first city-sponsored Arbor Day/Earth Day in 2005, more than 600 trees and thousands of shrubs have been planted with the assistance of almost 2,000 volunteers.

Since 2008, Renton has been recognized as a Tree City USA and holding an Arbor Day observance is one of the four standards the city must meet according to the Arbor Day Foundation. The others are the establishment of a tree board or department; a tree care ordinance; and a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita.

About the City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington, with a population of 101,300 (2016), is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that are providing employees and their families an outstanding quality of life. Renton is the home of Boeing, PACCAR, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks, and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found on our website (rentonwa.gov), Facebook page ([CityofRenton](https://www.facebook.com/CityofRenton)) and Twitter ([@CityofRenton](https://twitter.com/CityofRenton)).

###