

City of Oak Harbor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
BOB SEVERNS
MAYOR

865 S.E. BARRINGTON DRIVE
OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON 98277
(360) 279-4500



Proclamation

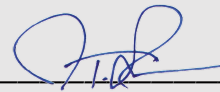
- Whereas:** Garry Oak, *Quercas garryana*, is a beautiful, white oak tree native to the Pacific Coast of North America. They can grow to be quite large, with a mushroom-shaped canopies of green leaves and sturdy trunks wrapped in bark that is white to grayish in color and distinctly furrowed; and,
- Whereas:** Garry Oak's scientific name, *Quercas garryana*, was bestowed by Botanist David Douglas in the early 1800's to honor his friend, Nicholas Garry, an officer in the Hudson Bay Trading Company; and,
- Whereas:** The tree has several common names including Garry Oak, Oregon Oak, Oregon White Oak, and White Oak; and,
- Whereas:** The more common reference is Garry Oak or Oregon White Oak in Oregon and California; and,
- Whereas:** You will find Garry Oak trees growing from Vancouver Island, British Columbia to Southern California; and,
- Whereas:** Garry Oak is the only native oak in Washington and British Columbia; and,
- Whereas:** Garry Oak is the principle native oak in Oregon; and,
- Whereas:** Since 2015, the Oak Harbor Garry Oak Society has committed to the stewardship of Garry Oak Trees on Whidbey Island through outreach, education, and preservation; and,
- Whereas:** The Oak Harbor Garry Oak Society is marking the 170th anniversary from 1851-2021 in recognition of naming the City, Oak Harbor, in honor of the Garry Oak tree; and,
- Whereas:** The Garry Oak Society and City of Oak Harbor will have multiple opportunities to celebrate this event in March through June throughout Oak Harbor,
- Whereas:** I, Bob Severns, Mayor of the City of Oak Harbor, Washington, do hereby proclaim for everyone to *celebrate the Year of the Oak!* Learn more about the Garry Oak tree by participating in activities and visiting the Garry Oak Society's website at www.ohgarryoaksociety.org.

Now Therefore, WE, Bob Severns, Mayor and Councilmembers of the City of Oak Harbor, do hereby proclaim

2021 as the Year of the Oak

encouraging everyone to learn more about Garry Oaks and participate in events celebrating this wonderful tree and the honor our City has being named after it.

Signed this 2nd day of March, 2021



Robert Severns, Mayor