

## Celebrate SOU's 12th year as a Tree Campus

Arbor Day is an opportunity to celebrate Southern Oregon University's 12th year as a Tree Campus. This is a recognition of our ongoing commitment to stewardship, sustainability, and the beauty of our campus landscape.

From shaded walkways to diverse plantings, our campus is a shared resource that reflects the care and contributions of our community.

Arbor Day began in 1872 as a call to plant trees and invest in the long-term health of our communities. Today, it remains a powerful reminder of the role trees and green spaces play in creating resilient, vibrant places to live, learn, and gather.

Join us on April 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Arbor Day 2026. We'll be gathering around Hannon Library to expand pollinator gardens, build trails, install bird houses, and continue enhancing our campus environment.

This is a rolling volunteer event so drop in at any time and stay as long as you're able. Activities are designed for a range of skill levels and interests, whether you're looking to get hands-on, learn something new, or simply spend time outdoors playing yard games or connecting with others.

Students, staff, and faculty are all encouraged to take part. Come celebrate, contribute, and spend time in the spaces we share.

In addition, students are invited to participate in our Arbor Day Sticker Design Challenge. Help us celebrate through art by creating a design that reflects the spirit of trees, sustainability, and community, especially with inspiration from our local landscapes and ecosystems. Submissions are due by April 20, 2026, and the winning design will be printed and distributed at the Arbor Day celebration. The selected artist will also receive a \$50 gift.

Learn more here: <https://sustainability.sou.edu/get-involved/creative-contests/>