



**Mission:** To cultivate a passion for science, leadership, and service in a diverse community of learners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SENATOR MICHAEL F. BENNET JOINS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING FOR KIDS ON ARBOR DAY TO PLANT TREES AT GREENWAY PARK**

DENVER, CO (April 16, 2014) – U.S. Senator Michael F. Bennet will join Environmental Learning for Kids’ (ELK) youth and families from Northeast areas of Denver to plant 288 trees for Arbor Day on Saturday, April 19. This service learning and educational project will teach urban youth the environmental benefits of trees as well as provide an opportunity for community engagement, beautification and pride for their local neighborhoods and parks.

“Environmental Learning for Kids has been nationally recognized for educating thousands of kids about the importance of the environment and teaching them to have pride in their communities,” Bennet said. “This will be a great opportunity to have fun, plant some beautiful trees and recognize Arbor Day by spending time with Coloradans outside.”

Stacie Gilmore, ELK’s Executive Director, states that, “through youth development programs that provide environmental stewardship, science education, employment opportunities, career exploration, and leadership development; careers in science and natural resources have become a reality for our students.”

The project will take place at Greenway Park on April 19 from 9am to noon in partnership with Denver Parks and Recreation. PHP capital has sponsored Arbor Day to benefit ELK’s outdoor recreation, science education and career explorations programs.

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**About Environmental Learning for Kids**

Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK), is a Denver-based, 501(c)3 organization established in 1996 by two wildlife biologists, Stacie and Scott Gilmore, who saw a growing need to introduce and educate Colorado’s urban youth about science, leadership, and careers. Eighteen years later, ELK continues to provide strong educational support, good role models, and opportunities for positive community action for youth, helping them to become engaged, productive, and successful members of society. For more information about ELK please visit [www.elkkids.org](http://www.elkkids.org).