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Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886

News Release

Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stoughton Utilities Named 2014 Tree Line USA By Arbor Day Foundation

The Arbor Day Foundation has named Stoughton Utilities a 2014 Tree Line USA in honor of its commitment to proper tree pruning, planting and care in the provider's service area.

Tree Line USA, a partnership between the Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes public and private utilities for pursuing practices that protect and enhance America's urban trees. Tree Line USA promotes the dual goals of delivering safe and reliable electricity while maintaining healthy community forests.

"Trees are a critical part of urban landscapes all across the United States," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Service providers like Stoughton Utilities show that taking care of urban trees is good for business, good for customers and good for the community."

Stoughton Utilities achieved Tree Line USA by meeting five program standards. Utilities must follow industry standards for quality tree care; provide annual worker training in best tree-care

practices; sponsor a tree-planting and public education program; maintain a tree-based energy conservation program; and participate in an Arbor Day celebration.

Stoughton Utilities' Tree Power encourages homeowners to plant a shade tree to not only add beauty to a yard, but also to eventually keep a home cooler during warm summer weather. The Tree Power program helps homeowners with the upfront cost of purchasing and planting shade trees, by providing cash-back rebates equal to 50 percent of the cost, up to \$50 per tree for a total maximum rebate of \$150 per household.

More information about Tree Line USA can be found at www.arborday.org/TreeLineUSA.

For more information about the honor, or about its Tree Power program, call Stoughton Utilities at 873-3379 or download an application form online at www.stoughtonutilities.com.

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About Stoughton Utilities: Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area; and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.

About Arbor Day Foundation: The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at www.arborday.org.