



**Stoughton Utilities**

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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Thank a Lineman on National Lineman Appreciation Day**

Lineworkers have a vital role in the community, working in harsh weather and sometimes hazardous conditions to keep electricity flowing year-round, and to restore power immediately during an outage. In honor of National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 18, Stoughton Utilities commends its lineworkers' commitment to service and safety.

“Our linemen are on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and they have to be ready for any situation. They are often the first responders during storms, making the scene safe for other public safety workers. We value the work they do every day to maintain reliable service to homes and businesses,” said Stoughton Utilities Director, Robert Kardasz.

Line work is not easy. Linemen must have the physical strength and agility to be able to climb poles, dig trenches, lift heavy equipment, and more, all while wearing equipment that can weigh around 45 pounds. They also expose themselves to danger every day, whether it be working with energized high voltage lines, or working 50 feet off the ground on a pole or in a bucket lift. Since power outages can happen at any time and can be caused by anything from a storm to a car accident, linemen need to be prepared to spring to action at a moment's notice.

Stoughton Utilities recently earned the American Public Power Association's national Electric Utility Safety Award, receiving a first place award for its outstanding safety record, including that of the electric line crew. For the past ten years, Stoughton Utilities has also received the top safety award given by the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin.

There continues to be a strong demand for highly trained linemen. Learning the trade often involves completing a technical college program, followed by completing a four-year apprenticeship program and on-the-job training.

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