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**For Immediate Release**

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**Bowling Green Municipal Utilities Receives Environmental Award-  
"Tree Line USA" Utility by the National Arbor Day Foundation**

**Bowling Green, KY, April 12, 2008** — Bowling Green Municipal Utilities (BGMU) has been named a "Tree Line USA" utility by The National Arbor Day Foundation for the second year in a row. BGMU is one of only two utilities in Kentucky with this national award distinction which recognizes public and private utilities across the nation that demonstrate practices that protect and enhance America's urban forests.

"We are especially proud of this award because it recognizes our commitment to the environment and the Bowling Green community," said Mark Iverson, General Manager of BGMU. "Trees and utility service lines are integral components of every community. By necessity, they must co-exist in close proximity, and each in its own way is essential to our high standard of living. This recognition serves not only as an award to the conscientious employees who make it possible, it also makes a statement to the Bowling Green community at large about cooperation, goodwill and the need for continuous tree care. Responsible tree trimming and planting are important facets of that. Through comprehensive vegetation management programs we are able to reduce the number of power outages and help make our community we serve a safer place to live."

The Tree Line USA program is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and recognizes utilities that meet three requirements: a program of quality tree care, annual worker training in quality tree care practices, and a tree planting and public education program.

"When utilities preserve community trees, while providing reliable service, it not only helps assure us of beautiful trees for the future, but also results in long-term operational savings for the utility," said John Rosenow, President of The National Arbor Day Foundation.

These utilities have demonstrated their dedication to quality tree care practices. One example is the growing acceptance of natural pruning, which trains trees to grow around utility wires, instead of 'topping' trees, or severely cutting back the main branches of a tree.

The National Arbor Day Foundation, a non-profit education organization, is dedicated to tree planting and environmental stewardship.

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