



WATER CONSERVATION



Springtime means warmer weather and increased water usage as customers begin watering lawns and filling pools. To ensure you're conserving water when you can, we recommend the following tips:

- ⇒ Take short showers instead of baths. Use a low flow shower head to conserve water.
- ⇒ Turn the faucet off when brushing teeth.
- ⇒ Only run full loads of dishes in your dishwasher and clothes in your washing machine.
- ⇒ If using an irrigation system, make sure your sprinklers are positioned to water your lawn as opposed to sidewalks and driveways.
- ⇒ Check for toilet leaks at least twice a year. You can do this by placing a couple of drops of food coloring in the tank. If you see that color in the toilet bowl after 15 minutes, there is a leak.
- ⇒ Know where your water meter is located and how to turn it off during an emergency. (Check out our Media page at bgmu.com to see how!)



Street Lights

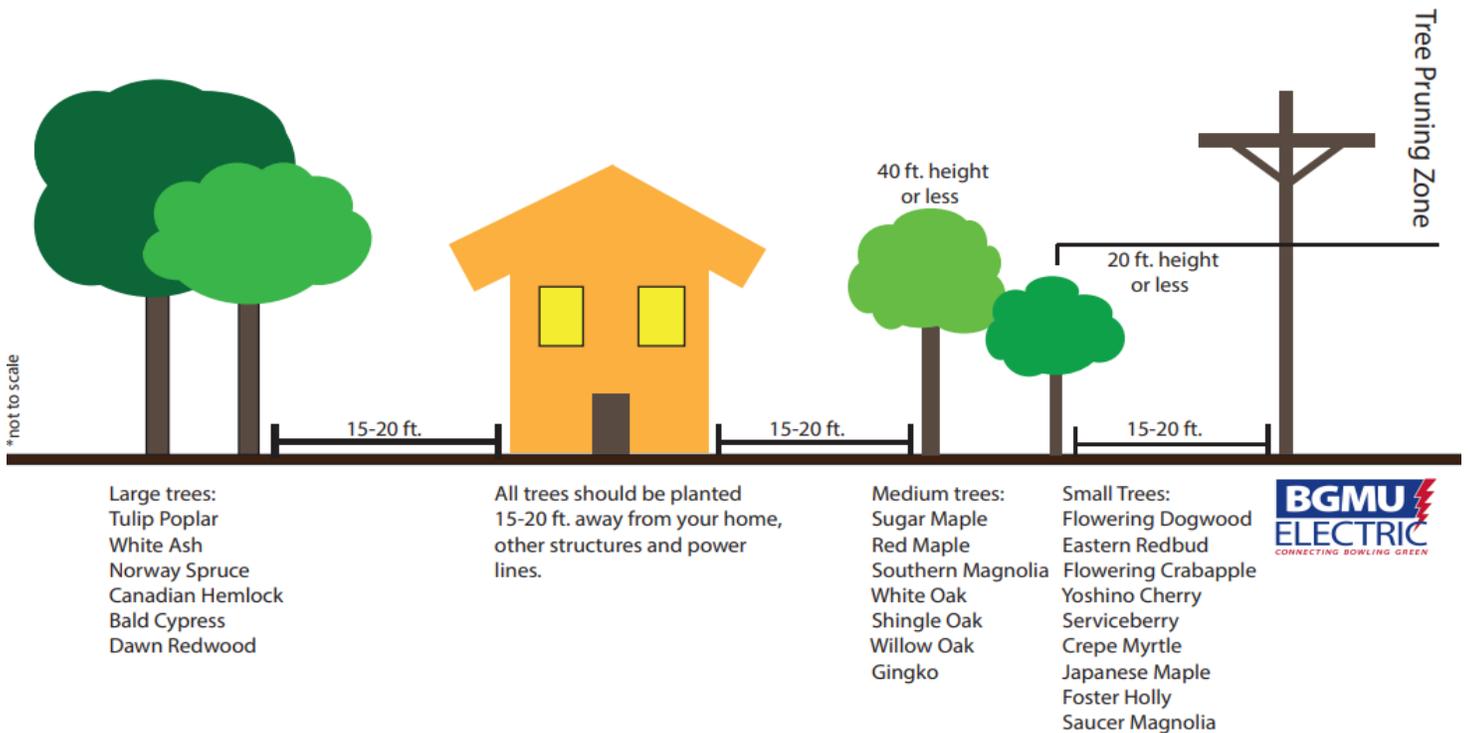
The December 11th tornadoes that ripped through the middle of the city did extensive damage to BGMU's pole infrastructure. As poles fell, so too did all of the attachments to the poles, including street lights. Supplementing our electric line crews with assistance from sister utilities, water-sewer crews working as groundsmen, and contracted crews, BGMU was able to rebuild the pole line and electrical circuits within 12 days. In addition to marshaling labor, BGMU was fortunate to have great vendor and utility support in acquiring sufficient materials to accomplish that task as quickly as it did. Vendors and manufacturers were able to get BGMU's material needs to the front of the line.

Now begins the task of street light repair, both lamping thoroughfares and lamping neighborhoods. The issue of supply chain woes continues. The throughput we experienced from vendors for pole line restoration may not play out as quickly for street lights. Additionally, there is a lot of variability in street lighting, from stand-alone poles (wood vs. decorative vs. fiberglass), lamps and fixtures (standard vs. decorative), wattage/lumens, etc. which complicates material ordering. Because it will take more time to receive materials, BGMU crews may have to place street lights at every second or third pole initially and back-fill in as procurement orders are filled. As our focus will be on rebuilding the street light system destroyed in the tornados, its ability to replace "regular" burned out lights outside of the damaged areas will wane and add to public frustration.

Street lighting repair is important to us and is ramping up to be a big part of our ongoing operations. We certainly understand the public's anxiety of the darkness and are working to rectify that. BGMU asks for your patience and will keep you updated as it progresses through this phase of restoration.



TREE PLANTING GUIDE



The storms may have taken many of our precious trees and shrubs, but we will replant a vibrant Bowling Green! As you replace trees this spring, BGMU asks you to keep safety in mind by planting trees away from power lines and shrubs away from transformer boxes. For information on safe and effective tree planting, visit bgmu.com or call our right-of-way foreman at 270-782-1200. Don't forget to call 811 to have underground lines marked at least two days before you dig!



DOWNED POWER LINES: STAY AWAY!

Powerful storms can cause damage to trees and power lines. If you encounter a downed power line, follow these steps:

- Stay away from the line and call 911 to report the situation. You can also call our dispatch center at 270-782-4302.
- If your vehicle makes contact with the line, the safest place to stay is inside the vehicle until help arrives. The line could still be energized.
- If your vehicle catches on fire, exit quickly by jumping away from it. Without touching the sides for balance, jump as far as possible and land with both feet on the ground. The vehicle could also be energized, so stand away from it while waiting for help to arrive.

