



NEWS RELEASE

BOWLING GREEN MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BGMU Earns 2025 Tree Line USA Recognition from Arbor Day Foundation

(Bowling Green, Ky.) The Arbor Day Foundation recognized Bowling Green Municipal Utilities as a 2025 Tree Line USA utility for its commitment to balancing the delivery of reliable electricity with the preservation of urban forests and the profound layers of benefits trees provide communities. This is BGMU's 18th consecutive year receiving this designation.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a global nonprofit with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. Its network of more than a million supporters and partners has helped the organization plant more than 500 million trees in forests and communities across more than 60 countries since 1972. The Tree Line USA program recognizes service providers that maintain a high standard of care when planting or maintaining trees on the job.

"Trees strengthen our communities and make our neighborhoods healthier in so many ways. But they need us to plant and care for them, which is why it is so important that utilities do their part to help urban forests thrive," said Michelle Saulnier, Vice President of Programs at the Arbor Day Foundation. "BGMU demonstrates that safe and reliable electricity doesn't need to come at the expense of tree canopies. They are setting a positive example for their community, and we're proud to have them as part of our national network of forward-thinking service providers."

Trees make communities more livable. They clean the air, cool cities, and provide physical and mental health benefits for people. When the right trees are planted in the right places, they also shade homes and businesses and help reduce the demand on energy during peak service hours, ultimately lowering energy costs for residents. The proper maintenance of trees can also increase the reliability of utility services during strong storms, as properly maintained trees result in fewer downed lines.



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“BGMU recognizes that a healthy, vibrant urban forest adds to the quality of life for our community,” stated Mark Iverson, General Manager of BGMU. “BGMU also recognizes that trees can conflict with the community’s need for reliable electric power. We appreciate having the opportunity to work with the Arbor Day Foundation to develop and follow best practices in quality tree care.”

To qualify as a Tree Line USA, utilities must uphold five core principles including following industry standards for quality tree care, providing annual worker training in best tree care practices, sponsoring a tree planting and public education program, maintaining a tree-based energy conservation program and participating in an Arbor Day celebration. The Arbor Day Foundation’s Tree Line USA program is operated in partnership with the National Association of State Foresters. To learn more about the program or how to apply, visit arborday.org/our-work/tree-line-usa.

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About BGMU

Bowling Green Municipal Utilities provides electricity, water, wastewater services and high-speed commercial data services to the Bowling Green area. The utility serves approximately 32,000 electric customers, 22,000 water/wastewater customers and 920 commercial fiber customers. For more information, please visit our website, www.bgmu.com.

About Arbor Day Foundation

The Arbor Day Foundation is a global nonprofit inspiring people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. They foster a growing community of more than 1 million leaders, innovators, planters, and supporters united by their bold belief that a more hopeful future can be shaped through the power of trees. For more than 50 years, they’ve answered critical need with action, planting more than half a billion trees alongside their partners. And this is only the beginning.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit pursuing a future where all life flourishes through the power of trees. Learn more at arborday.org.
