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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

## Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2016

Contact: Robert Kardasz, Stoughton Utilities Director

### **Stoughton Utilities named 2016 Tree Line USA By Arbor Day Foundation**

The Arbor Day Foundation has named Stoughton Utilities a 2016 Tree Line USA in honor of its commitment to proper tree pruning, planting and care in the provider's service area for the fifteenth year.

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 Dan Lambe, President 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 customer incentive is one tree-planting and public education program offered. The Tree Power incentive 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. Tree Power 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](http://www.arborday.org/TreeLineUSA).

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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](http://www.arborday.org).

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