



News Release

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For Immediate Release

For more information, contact:
KUB Community Relations

KUB Plants Trees at Habitat for Humanity Homes

The first Friday in March is designated Tennessee Arbor Day, and in recognition of this holiday, KUB and its contractor, Volunteer Erosion Control (VEC), planted 25 dogwood trees around the community at Habitat for Humanity homes built over the past year within KUB's service territory.

KUB began the Habitat for Humanity tree planting program in 2008 and has planted more than 230 trees to date in association with this program.

The tree planting partnership began as part of KUB's participation in the Tree Line USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation. The program requires participating utilities to plant trees in their communities, and the Habitat homes are a good match. "Part of our program is intended to help people know about planting the right tree in the right place," said Joe Castleman, KUB Utility Forester, "We plant these trees so they won't threaten our lines in the future, and as a result, these new homeowners will be able to enjoy them for years to come. It's a good opportunity for our customers to learn first-hand about keeping trees away from powerlines."

KUB encourages customers to use proper tree planting techniques; including planting the right species of tree in the right place to avoid future growth into power lines and by using the Call 811 system to prevent dig-ins on utility lines during an excavation project. KUB's own pruning practices are approved by the Arbor Day Foundation, support safe and reliable electric service and help preserve the health of the tree. The foundation has named KUB a Tree Line USA utility each year since 2001 for following best practices in utility arboriculture through quality tree care, annual worker training, tree planting and public education. Trees add beauty and life to our community, as well as help conserve energy, increase property values, and clean our air and water.

KUB serves nearly 200,000 electric customers and maintains more than 5,000 miles of electric lines. For more information on how to plant the right tree in the right place, Tennessee's Call 811 system, or KUB's tree pruning services, visit www.kub.org.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity, visit www.knoxvillehabitatforhumanity.com.

KUB is a municipal utility serving Knox and parts of seven adjacent counties and provides electric, gas, water, and wastewater services to more than 445,000 customers.

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