

News Release

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KUB Receives 22nd Arbor Day Tree Line USA Award and Celebrates Arbor Day with City of Knoxville

Knoxville, TN – Fourteen trees were planted in Harriet Tubman Park today in honor of Arbor Day by KUB, the City of Knoxville, the Tennessee Division of Forestry, and Trees Knoxville. During the event, KUB received a 22nd consecutive Tree Line USA[®] award from the Arbor Day Foundation. KUB was recognized with the award for implementing best practices in utility arboriculture, including high-quality tree maintenance, yearly worker training, tree planting, and community outreach.

"We are committed to quality tree care while providing safe, reliable electric service to the community," said Gabriel J. Bolas, II, KUB President and CEO. "KUB appreciates the recognition from the Arbor Day Foundation, and we are proud to meet their standards to receive the Tree Line USA[®] designation for more than two decades."

KUB planted 350 trees throughout its service territory within the last year. When planted properly, trees can reduce energy consumption, provide beauty, enhance quality of life, and promote clean air and water. Thanks to a robust vegetation management program, KUB supplies its community with safe, dependable electricity while conserving the health of the trees.

Planting the right tree in the right place can enhance the environment and maintain utility safety. There are <u>resources</u> on the KUB website for proper planting along with more information on <u>KUB Vegetation Management</u>. Customers can also access a <u>guide</u> for tree pruning.

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KUB received its 22nd consecutive Tree Line USA® award from the Arbor Day Foundation today at Harriett Tubman Park. Pictured, left to right at the event are Nick Bridgeman, utility forester; Gabriel J. Bolas II, KUB president & CEO; Elaine Reed, vegetation management analyst; Michael Pauley, utility forester; Josh Johnson, manager of system operations; Wendy Slifka, vegetation management analyst.

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KUB is a municipal utility serving Knox and parts of seven adjacent counties with safe and reliable electric, fiber, natural gas, water, and wastewater services to more than 478,000 customers.