



## News Release

April 11, 2017  
For Immediate Release

For more information, contact:  
KUB Community Relations

### **KUB Marks Tennessee Arbor Day By Planting Trees at Habitat for Humanity Homes**

Since 2008, KUB has planted trees at Habitat for Humanity homes during the month of March in recognition of Tennessee Arbor Day. The first Friday in March is designated Tennessee Arbor Day, and KUB and its contractor, Volunteer Erosion Control (VEC), planted 20 dogwood trees in the neighborhoods with Habitat for Humanity homes built over the past year within KUB's service territory.

Since its inception, more than 250 trees have been planted as part of 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 more 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](http://www.kub.org).

For more information on Habitat for Humanity, visit [www.knoxvillehabitatforhumanity.com](http://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 453,000 customers.*

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