

## **Arbor Day Foundation Awards Recognition to Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services as 2022 Tree Line USA Utility**

*PPCS earns the Tree Line USA recognition for its commitment to forestry in its community*

LINCOLN, Nebraska – Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services (PPCS) was named a 2022 Tree Line USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to recognize its dedication to proper forest management in the provider's service area. PPCS has received this designation for 17 years in a row.

PPCS achieved the Tree Line USA recognition by meeting five program standards: quality tree care, annual worker training, tree planting and public education, a formal tree-based energy conservation, and a sponsorship of or participation Arbor Day celebration. PPCS is celebrating Arbor Day 2022 by providing all fourth graders in Pierce and Pepin counties with white pine seedlings and educational materials on proper tree planting. Five PPCS members also won a \$200 gift certificate to Reuver's Nursery for the purchase of trees in the Grow Democratic Member Control prize drawing.

Tree Line USA, a partnership between the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes public and private utilities for pursuing best practices that protect and cultivate America's urban tree canopy. In addition, Tree Line USA promotes delivering safe and reliable electricity while maintaining healthy community forests.

"Trees are essential to creating more green spaces in communities across the United States," said Dan Lambe, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "In addition, they provide important benefits to residents, including clean air, clean water, and vital tree shade. Service providers like Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services demonstrate how easily trees and utilities can co-exist for the benefit of communities and residents."

By joining the Tree Line USA program, service providers benefit from lowering line

clearance costs due to proper pruning. As a result of those properly pruned and maintained trees, the people benefit from increased reliability of service because those trees will have healthy root systems that decay less, have less structural weakness, and ultimately result in fewer downed lines during storms.

More information about Tree Line USA can be found at [www.arborday.org/TreeLineUSA](http://www.arborday.org/TreeLineUSA).

### **About the Arbor Day Foundation**

Founded in 1972, the Arbor Day Foundation has grown to become the largest nonprofit membership organization dedicated to planting trees, with more than one million members, supporters and valued partners. Since 1972, almost 500 million Arbor Day Foundation trees have been planted in neighborhoods, communities, cities and forests throughout the world. Our vision is to lead toward a world where trees are used to solve issues critical to survival.

As one of the world's largest operating conservation foundations, the Arbor Day Foundation, through its members, partners and programs, educates and engages stakeholders and communities across the globe to involve themselves in its mission of planting, nurturing and celebrating trees. More information is available at [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).



*PPCS employees Heidi Shepler, Brad Ristow, Charity Lubich and David Chavie display the Tree Line USA plaque and the seedling packages provided to fourth graders in Pierce and Pepin counties.*