



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 31, 2026  
**TO:** Antonio Puente, Jr., DME General Manager  
**FROM:** Stuart Birdseye, External Affairs Administrator/PIO  
**SUBJECT:** Tree Line USA Recognition

I am pleased to inform you that Denton Municipal Electric (DME) has been recognized as a Tree Line USA utility by the Arbor Day Foundation for the fourth consecutive year. The Tree Line USA program recognizes utilities for best practices in tree care, worker training, and community engagement, and promotes safe, reliable service and healthier urban forests.

To qualify as a Tree Line USA, DME showed commitment to the program's five core principles:

- Following industry standards for quality tree care,
- Providing annual worker training in best tree care practices,
- Sponsoring a tree planting and public education program,
- Maintaining a tree-pased energy conservation program; and,
- Participating in an Arbor Day celebration.

DME is proud of this achievement, and worked toward these principles through our annual staff training, sponsorsoring and participating in Keep Denton Beautiful's tree programs including the annual Tree Giveaway and Denton Redbud Festival. We also distribute proper tree planting and maintenance information throughout the year.

As the Arbor Day Foundation notes, Trees make communities more livable. They clean the air, cool cities, and provide physical and mental health benefits for people. When the right trees are planted in the right places, they also shade homes and businesses and help reduce the demand on energy during peak service hours, ultimately lowering energy costs for residents. The proper maintenance of trees can also increase the reliability of utility services during strong storms, as properly maintained trees result in fewer downed lines.



### OUR CORE VALUES

Inclusion • Collaboration • Quality Service • Strategic Focus • Fiscal Responsibility