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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

## Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 22, 2017

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### **Stoughton Utilities Recognizes Lineworkers for Service, Safety**

Lineworkers have a vital role in the community, working in harsh weather and sometimes hazardous conditions to keep electricity flowing year-round and to restore power immediately during an outage. In honor of National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 18, Stoughton Utilities commends its lineworkers' commitment to service and safety.

“Our linemen are on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and they have to be ready for any situation. They're often the first responders during storms, making the scene safe for other public safety workers. We value the work they do every day to maintain reliable service to homes and businesses,” said Stoughton Utilities Director, Robert Kardasz.

Line work isn't easy. Linemen must have the physical strength and agility to be able to climb poles, dig trenches, and more while wearing equipment that can weigh around 45 pounds. They also expose themselves to danger every day, whether it be working with high voltage lines or working hundreds of feet off the ground on a pole or in a bucket lift. Since power outages can happen at any time and can be caused by anything from a storm to a car accident, linemen need to be prepared to spring to action at a moment's notice.

Stoughton Utilities recently earned the American Public Power Association's national Electric Utility Safety Award, receiving a first place award for its outstanding safety record, including that of the lineman crew. They also received a Safety Achievement Award issued by the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin.

There continues to be a strong demand for highly trained lineworkers. Learning the trade often involves completing a technical college program, followed by an apprenticeship.

Each year, the utility awards a \$1,000 Lineworker Training Scholarship to a high school senior who plans to attend a Wisconsin technical college that offers the Electrical Power Distribution Program.

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Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area; and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.