



Get Your Free Energy-Saving Tree from the Arbor Day Foundation and Black Hills Energy

Denver, CO — Aug. 29, 2016 — In partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation’s Energy-Saving Trees initiative, Black Hills Energy is distributing approximately 1,100 free trees, one per household, to customers who reserve one beginning today.

A free tree can be reserved on a first come, first served basis at www.arborday.org/blackhillsenergy. The 3- to 4-foot-tall dormant trees will be delivered directly to customers for fall planting in October.

“Our partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation in the Energy-Saving Trees program offers us the opportunity to promote the cleaner air, energy savings and other valuable benefits you gain by planting the right tree in the right place,” said Susan Bailey, Black Hills Energy’s Vice President of natural gas operations for Colorado.

Black Hills Energy customers can use the handy online tool at www.arborday.org/blackhillsenergy to quickly determine where to plant a tree to gain the most energy-saving benefits. “Strategically planted trees block the hot summer sun and cold winter winds to help cut energy usage without sacrificing comfort,” Bailey said.

Black Hills also is delivering a safety message: At least two business days before you plan to dig, whether you’re a homeowner planting a tree or a contractor excavating with a backhoe, Call Before You Dig to have underground utility lines marked. It’s free, it’s safe and it’s the law. In CO, just make a free call by dialing 811 to reach Colorado One Call. You also can schedule online at <http://colorado811.org>.

Bailey also urges customers to follow the safe digging practices listed at www.blackhillsenergy.com/811. Those include using white spray-paint to mark the area where you plan to dig before line locaters arrive.

“Underground utility lines may be out of sight, but they should never be out of mind,” Bailey said. “It only takes a minute to Call Before You Dig, and it can save untold time and trouble. Please follow the rules and dig safely. We want you and your family to enjoy your new tree for a long, long time.”

Media Contact:

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| Carly West, Black Hills Energy | 303-566-3550 carly.west@blackhillscorp.com |
| 24-Hour Media Assistance | 866-243-9002 |

ABOUT BLACK HILLS ENERGY

Black Hills Energy is a natural gas and electric utility serving 1.2 million customers in eight states: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. Black Hills Energy is part of Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH), a growth-oriented, vertically integrated energy company based in Rapid City, South Dakota, with a tradition of improving life with energy and a vision to be the energy partner of choice. Black Hills Corp. also generates wholesale electricity and produces natural gas, oil and coal. More information is available at www.blackhillscorp.com and www.blackhillsenergy.com.

ABOUT THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org.