



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TREE PICK-UP AND PLANTING EVENT IN COLUMBUS**

JOPLIN, MO – November 15, 2017 – The Empire District Electric Company will be hosting a tree pick-up and planting event at Columbus, Kansas, City Park on Friday, November 17 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Customers who registered for Empire’s Energy Saving Trees program, received a confirmation, and selected Columbus as their delivery point, will be able to pick up their complimentary tree during the event. A tree planting will also take place, and the public is encouraged to attend and take advantage of demonstrations on proper planting, mulching, and selecting the right tree for the right place .

This is the second year Empire has partnered with the Arbor Day Foundation to offer the Energy-Saving Trees program to customers. The program is an online, research-based tool intended to help homeowners and utility companies save energy and money by strategically planting trees.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Arbor Day Foundation has recognized Empire as a Tree Line USA Utility for demonstrating best practices in utility arboriculture. To receive this special designation, Empire follows quality tree care standards, provides annual worker training, and participates in tree planting, public education, and tree-based energy conservation efforts. For more information about Empire’s tree-related programs and planting tips, visit us on the web at [www.empiredistrict.com/vegetation](http://www.empiredistrict.com/vegetation).

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company is a subsidiary of Liberty Utilities Co. and headquarters for the Liberty Utilities Central Region, providing electric, natural gas, water, and wastewater service to nearly 320,000 customers across six states. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit [www.empiredistrict.com](http://www.empiredistrict.com). For more information about Liberty Utilities, visit [www.libertyutilities.com](http://www.libertyutilities.com).

###

**Contact:**

Jillian Campbell  
Corporate Communications  
(417) 625-5180  
[jcampbell@empiredistrict.com](mailto:jcampbell@empiredistrict.com)