## Green *Means Clean*

Why is RPU forming so many partnerships to "green-up" Rochester? Because planting trees makes sense for your pocketbook, your family's health, and the future of the environment. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, carefully positioned trees can save up to 25% of a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling. Not only that, trees clean the environment. One acre of trees provides enough oxygen for 18 people for one year and absorbs as much $CO_2$ as a car produces by driving 26,000 miles.

## Celebrate *Arbor Day*

Arbor Day was founded by J. Sterling Morton, an early pioneer to Nebraska who loved nature and saw the need for planting trees in the vast prairies of the state. Arbor Day was first observed in 1872, when more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska. Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world. For more information about Arbor Day, visit www.arborday.org.

Each year, beginning on the last Friday in April, RPU encourages the Rochester community to plant trees in celebration of Arbor Day. Visit www.rpu.org for details on our Annual Arbor Day Celebration and make plans to attend!

**rpu**
*we pledge, we deliver* ®

**Rochester Public Utilities**
4000 East River Road NE
Rochester, MN, 55906-2813
507.280.1500
**www.rpu.org**

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# Partners *in Planting*

**Look inside for** $10 **and** $20 **COUPONS**
good toward the purchase and maintenance of a new tree!

**rpu**
*we pledge, we deliver* ®

**CONSERVE & $AVE** ®

# Partners *in Planting*

- RPU has partnered with The Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Line USA® program, which recognizes public and private utilities that demonstrate practices that protect and enhance America's urban forests. This program promotes the dual goals of safe, reliable electric service and abundant, healthy trees across utility service areas.

- RPU has also partnered with local nurseries, Jim Whiting Nursery & Garden Center and Sargent's Gardens to give you a $10 discount on the purchase of qualifying deciduous shade trees and with local arborist, Maier Tree & Lawn, for $20 off a tree service.

- Now we want to partner with YOU to plant trees all over Rochester!

## Where to *Plant a Tree*

Follow these basic rules and you will save energy and money on your utility bills:

**Plant deciduous (leaf-shedding) trees on the south and west sides of your home and:**
- Provide energy saving shade and save on your utility bill.
- Reduce the demand on your air-conditioning system in summer months.
- Allow sunshine to warm your home during winter months.

**Plant evergreen trees on the north and west sides of your home and:**
- Create a windbreak that blocks cold winter winds.
- Save energy and money on your heating bill.
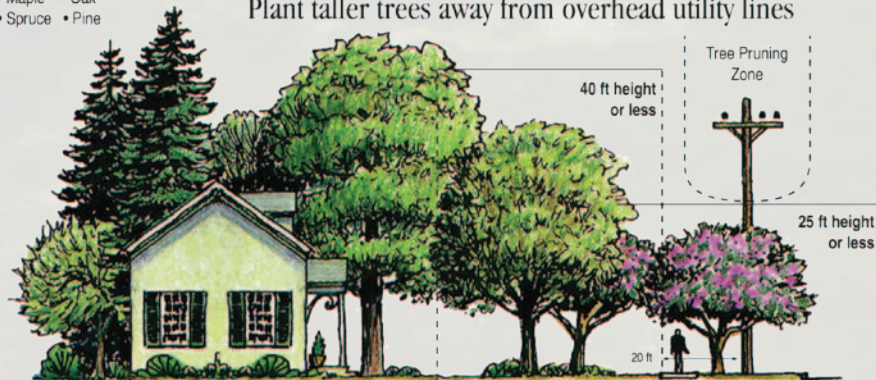- Ease the load on your home heating system.

**Before you plant, remember to:**
- Call before you dig! Contact Gopher State One – Call 811.
- If you are planting in the boulevard or right of way, please contact the Rochester Parks & Recreation Forestry Division at 507.328.2515 or download the permit at http://www.rochestermn.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/forestry
- Avoid placing trees under power lines.
- Plant your trees the proper distance from your home.
- Contact your nursery or garden center professional for help.

### Plant the right tree in the right place
Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines

Tall trees, such as:
- Maple
- Oak
- Spruce
- Pine

Tree Pruning Zone

40 ft height or less

25 ft height or less

50 ft

20 ft

Medium trees, such as:
- Washington hawthorn
- Goldenraintree

Small trees, such as:
- Star magnolia
- Crabapple

Arbor Day Foundation
arborday.org

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# Partners *in Planting*

Must be an RPU customer to participate. One of each coupon per household.