



Wright-Hennepin

Cooperative Electric Association

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN DONATES OVER 15,000 TREE SEEDLINGS TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, Minn. (April 23, 2014) — As part of its ongoing commitment to help the local environment, Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) has donated more than 200,000 trees to local youth, schools and civic organizations through the cooperative's Plant-A-Tree program.

In 1997, WH's electric service territory was struck by a severe storm that damaged and destroyed many mature trees. WH has since worked to offset that loss by donating trees to youth, schools and civic organizations throughout its service territory in Wright and western Hennepin counties.

Local educators often use the program as an opportunity to teach students about the important environmental benefits of trees, including preventing soil erosion, providing habitats for wildlife, replenishing oxygen supplies and filtering groundwater.

"I'm really thankful that WH provides my kindergarteners with tree seedlings each year. The children receive the seedlings around Arbor Day, which helps them learn about how trees grow and the importance they serve in the environment," said Delano Public Schools Kindergarten Teacher Barb Stoffel.

More than 15,000 tree seedlings will be distributed this year, including red maple, white birch, norway spruce, black hills spruce and red oak. This is the 17th year WH has donated trees through the program.

WH is a member-owned non-profit electric utility that provides electric power to Wright County and the western part of Hennepin County. The cooperative has been a corporate citizen in this area since 1937 and currently serves more than 46,000 electric accounts. The utility started its security division in 1989 and now provides local home

security solutions as well as monitors alarm systems for more than 50,000 customers in 32 states and three Canadian provinces.



Delano Elementary kindergarten class holds up the new trees that they received as part of the Plant-A-Tree program.

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