

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Sumter Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Barry Bowman, Director
Corporate Communications & Energy Services
330 South US Hwy 301 • PO Box 301
Sumterville, FL 33585-0301

www.secoenergy.com



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Arbor Day Foundation Honors SECO

When the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of Foresters honor a utility for the way in which it fosters good tree management practices, it's a pretty big deal. Sumter Electric Cooperative (SECO) has just been recognized by these two prestigious groups for the fifth year in a row for meeting their three very strict requirements.

To receive the coveted 'Tree Line USA' designation SECO had to have a program of quality tree care, annual worker training in quality tree care practices, and a tree planting and public education program.

At a ceremony honoring SECO, Dan Lambe, Vice President of Programs for the Arbor Day Foundation, said, "SECO's commitment to providing safe, reliable electric service to their customers while working to strategically manage and grow the urban tree canopy provides important benefits to communities across their service area."

April Hurst, SECO Vegetation Management Contract Administrator, said, "We are very proud to have received this award for the fifth year in a row. At SECO, we strive to be environmentally sensitive in all areas of our operation, and our vegetation management program is a prime example of that. Trees enrich our lives. They also help reduce peak demand for electricity by conserving energy. We are extremely grateful to the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of Foresters for recognizing the hard work we've put into our vegetation management program."

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to tree planting and environmental stewardship.

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