



NEWS RELEASE
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Contact: Mark Nibaur, Austin Utilities

507-433-1289

MarkN@AustinUtilities.com

AUSTIN UTILITIES EARNS 2019 BEST PLACES TO WORK IN SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA 2nd YEAR

AUSTIN, Minn.— 2019 Best Places to Work in Southeast Minnesota 2nd Year

Austin Utilities was recently awarded the **2019 Best Places to Work in Southeast Minnesota** in the Mid-Size Employer range (75-200 people) by the Workforce Development Inc at an awards banquet held in Rochester on April 25. This is the second year in a row the organization has won the award.

“It is an honor to receive this award two years in a row. Being a *Best Places to Work* is an important goal for us,” said general manager Mark Nibaur. “We plan to celebrate receiving this recognition with our staff.” In addition to a good benefit package, active employee committees for safety, wellness, and community engagement have helped Austin Utilities earn this award.

The “Best Places to Work” awards program is a study which has been commissioned by Workforce Development, Inc. for the past nine years. The purpose of the program is to recognize some of the best employers in our local area and provide vital information to companies about the practices they use to attract and retain employees.

Each company participating was required to complete a 40-question survey that allowed their employment practices to be analyzed by the consulting firm of Personnel Dynamics Consulting of Florida. The data was measured on such parameters as: turnover, rate of growth, promotion rates, employee evaluations and feedback, percentage of employee injured, diversity of management, benefits offered, training expenditures, paid days off and increase in pay. “We applied for the award program hoping to learn about what others are doing to make their workplaces better. It was great to see that we are creating a positive work environment for our employees,” said Nibaur.

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Austin Utilities is a municipal utility serving approximately 12,300 electric customers, 10,300 natural gas customers, and 9000 water customers. Their mission is to offer utility products and services in a safe, reliable and responsible manner in order to enhance the quality of life in our community. Austin Utilities' Board of Commissioners are elected by the consumer-owners of Austin to represent their best interest. For more information on Austin Utilities visit their website at www.austinutilities.com.