

LIBERTY UTILITIES ANNOUNCES RETURN OF THE OSPREY

JOPLIN, MO – March 20, 2019 – Liberty Utilities and Mid Central Contractors invite you to celebrate the return of the Osprey to Stockton Lake. View the birds through the live video stream as they prepare for the nesting season. The live stream can be accessed from <https://mclivetech.com/ospreycam/>.

In February 2015, line crews moved the Osprey nest from an electric transmission tower to a newly built nesting box. By relocating the nest, crews increased the likelihood the pair would adopt the new nesting site. Ospreys typically mate for life and will return to the same nesting site each year. Since then, viewers have been able to watch the pair raise 14 young, three in 2015, four in 2016, four in 2017, and three in 2018.

The Osprey lost a nest in 2014 after it came in contact with an energized electric line. The fire also caused damage to the transmission tower and line, interrupting electric service. The new home for the pair of Osprey is meant to be a safe nesting alternative, which will also increase service reliability.

The nesting box is approximately 4 feet by 4 feet and approximately 70 feet high. Although the power lines are visible in the background, the nesting box is approximately 50 feet away from the power lines. The camera also has night vision provided by infrared light illumination. Birds and humans cannot see infrared light, so the ospreys are not bothered at night by the infrared light illumination. The cameras are powered by two solar panels.

The live video feed is not only for the enjoyment of the community, but also to monitor the birds' acceptance of this nesting alternative. Due to the success of this first nesting site 11 additional nesting sites have been installed. Enjoy this brief peek into the lives of this Osprey family, but please be aware, at times, nature can be difficult to watch.

About Liberty Utilities

Liberty Utilities Co. owns and operates regulated water, wastewater, natural gas and electric transmission and distribution utilities in 12 states, delivering responsive and reliable essential services to nearly 780,000 customers across the United States. With a local approach to management, service and support, we deliver efficient, dependable services to meet the needs of our customers. Liberty Utilities provides a superior customer experience through walk-in customer centers, locally focused conservation and energy efficiency initiatives, and programs for businesses and residential customers. We measure our performance in terms of service reliability, an enjoyable customer experience, and an unwavering dedication to public and workplace safety. Liberty Utilities currently operates in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma and Texas. For more information, please visit www.LibertyUtilities.com.

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