

Trees improve the environment and add beauty to our communities. But when taller trees are allowed to grow close to power lines they can cause outages and create potential safety hazards.



Tree pruning is a necessary part of PPL Electric Utilities' maintenance program. It helps keep your lights on during stormy weather and helps to ensure reliable electric service. Done properly, it can protect the health and strength of trees as well.

Professional contractors hired by PPL Electric Utilities will be pruning trees in your neighborhood. We appreciate your cooperation with their work.

Right tree in the right place

If you plan to plant a new tree, or replace an existing tree, please pay close attention to what you plant and where. When choosing a spot to plant your tree, make sure it will have plenty of room to grow to its full potential. Speak with the nursery where you plan to purchase the tree and tell them about any power lines so they can help you select the right tree.

Planting the right tree for the right place will make your property safer, more attractive, and reduce the likelihood for power outages. Our professional foresters can also advise you to proper tree selection for the location you have chosen.



PPL Electric Utilities is a
Tree Line USA Utility

If you have additional questions, please go to our Vegetation Management Web site:
www.pplweb.com/vegetation



PPL Electric Utilities



Tree Pruning

For safe, reliable
electric service



Doing the right job

PPL Electric Utilities operates about 35,000 miles of transmission and distribution power lines. Since trees are one of the most common cause of power outages, vegetation management is a critical part of providing safe, reliable electric service. If left

unmanaged, some vegetation species will grow too close to our lines and cause service interruptions or other unsafe conditions.

To manage vegetation, PPL's professional foresters work

directly with contracted qualified line clearance tree trimmers who perform the actual work. Before any pruning occurs, vegetation conditions are assessed with consideration to tree species, growth rates, position to the lines, and time since last trim.

Our contractors use a widely accepted industry best management technique known as directional pruning, which removes only those branches growing towards the power lines. Remaining branches are left to grow naturally, providing more of the trees natural shape. By only removing those branches that are growing towards the power lines, less stress is placed on each tree.

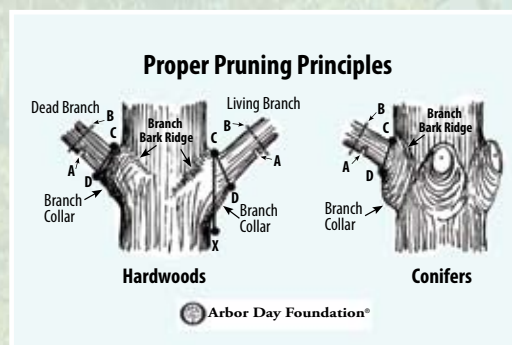
The National Arbor Day Foundation strongly endorses directional pruning techniques as being better for tree health. This method of pruning also follows the nationally recognized Standards for Tree Care Operations.



Directional pruning method

With directional pruning, entire branches under, over or beside power lines will be pruned back to the main stem of the tree or to another large branch. A result of this pruning might give the tree an "L" or "V" shape appearance from the side view, but in no means weakens the structural integrity of the tree.

Access to the trees to be pruned will be gained with specialized bucket trucks or by physically climbing the trees, when access is restricted or limited. Pruning work will be completed with chain saws and pole clips.



Qualified line clearance tree trimmers

Tree maintenance around power lines is performed by qualified line clearance tree trimmers. These individuals are trained to safely perform their duties around energized conductors and prune your trees properly. These tree care workers use pruning techniques that encourage quick and complete healing of removed branches, reduce potential decay, and reduce the growth of new sprouts.

Before our contractors begin work on your trees, a representative will attempt to contact you to explain the work required and answer questions you might have about it.

Cleanup and wood chips

In urban areas, tree crews typically chip and remove smaller limbs and branches. Larger wood is generally cut into handling lengths and left at the base of the tree for the property owner use.

In more rural areas where possible, tree crews will pile pruning debris to create wildlife cover and browse opportunities. Larger limb wood will be separated and left for property owner use.

Requests for wood chip are taken by the contractor tree crew forepersons that do their best to grant your requests. If you do request chips, be mindful that contractors will deliver full loads - 5 to 7 cubic yards. Contractors are not required to remove unused chips once delivered.



Don't endanger yourself

Please do not attempt to prune or remove trees near power lines. Contact with a power line can cause serious injury or death. PPL Electric Utilities' contracted qualified line clearance tree trimmers have specialized training to work around our power lines.

If you or a private arborist working for you, plan to remove a tree growing within less than 10 feet of a primary wire, call PPL Electric Utilities. We will have one of our qualified line clearance tree trimmers prune the tree to provide a safe working distance.

PPL Electric Utilities does not prune or remove trees located around the service wire that is between your house and the pole. PPL Electric Utilities will de-energize your service wire and lower it to the ground so you can do the work safely.

Both of these services are provided at no cost, but we do require at least three (3) business days notice and additional time may be required.