



Northeast Power
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

INTEGRATED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



MAINTAINING SAFE AND RELIABLE
SERVICE IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY
RESPONSIBLE MANNER

ENSURING A SAFE, RELIABLE AND ACCESSIBLE ELECTRIC SYSTEM

Northeast Missouri Electric Power Cooperative (Northeast Power) is a transmission electric cooperative that maintains more than 1,000 miles of transmission line and right-of-way. High-voltage transmission lines are the backbone of how Northeast Power keeps electricity flowing. The co-op's vegetation management program, which maintains the areas around power lines, helps prevent unnecessary power disruptions, and keeps people and property safe.

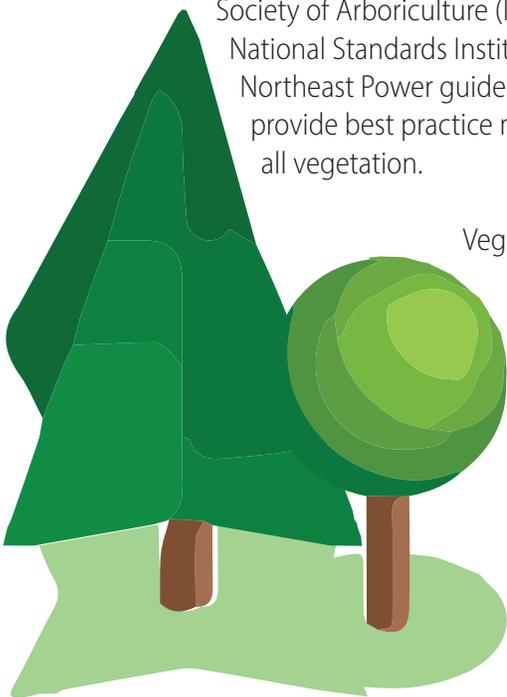
The foundation of vegetation management starts with a right-of-way, which is a strip of land that an electric utility uses to construct, maintain, repair or replace power lines.

Trees or other vegetation growing too close to power lines can cause extensive power outages and damage as well as pose serious fire and safety hazards to the public if the tree comes in contact with or is too close to energized power lines. In addition, power outages can cause severe hardship for our friends and neighbors.

For these reasons, safety, reliability and accessibility are at the core of our integrated vegetation management program.

RIGHT-OF-WAY PROCEDURE

The right-of-way must be kept clear to allow access for maintenance or repairs. Strict adherence to International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Northeast Power guidelines are used to provide best practice management of all vegetation.



Vegetation located on or adjacent to Northeast Power right-of-way will be removed, trimmed or chemically treated to permit construction,

safe operation and maintenance of transmission lines and substations. When trees and/or brush within and along the transmission right-of-way corridor endanger the transmission line or limit access to line structures, they are controlled using mechanical means of mowing, trimming and hand cutting. Long-term effective maintenance may also include the application of herbicides, approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to minimize growth where necessary.

WORKING WITH LANDOWNERS

Northeast Power values its long-standing relationship with landowners. We do our best to provide adequate notification of our vegetation maintenance schedule prior to beginning the work. Landowners affected may receive notification either in person or via telephone. If contact cannot be made, a door hanger will be filled out and left in a location where the landowner will find it.

In some cases, a broader method of contact may be used to inform landowners of upcoming vegetation maintenance and control procedures in their area such as newspaper ads, radio broadcast, Internet and social media.

If a concern arises regarding our vegetation maintenance practices, we will go to great lengths to work with landowners to reach a mutually agreeable solution. We encourage landowners to contact us if they have any questions or concerns.

GENERAL POLICIES

Safety of Our Landowners

Landowners should never attempt to trim or remove tree limbs near power lines. If you are concerned about a tree near power lines, please call us at 573.769.2107.

Proactive Approach

Trees near power lines should be pruned before they grow into power lines. Our vegetation management program works proactively to provide adequate clearance at all times.

Advance Notifications

We will attempt to notify landowners in advance of work to be performed. However, advance notice may not be possible during storms or other power emergencies.

Long-term Perspective

We consider the long-range effects our vegetation control practices. As a result, trees may be removed to promote long-term vegetation control, encourage natural grasses and forbs, and minimize the cost of future maintenance.

Accepted Vegetation Control Methods

Only herbicides registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be applied, as needed, by trained and certified applicators to manage low-growth vegetation. Vegetation removal via mechanized means is employed when required.

Following Recognized Pruning Standards

Our tree trimming practices typically follow the lateral and natural tree pruning methods as defined by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 and endorsed by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the International Society of Arboriculture. Lateral tree pruning maintains the health of the tree while directing future growth away from power lines.

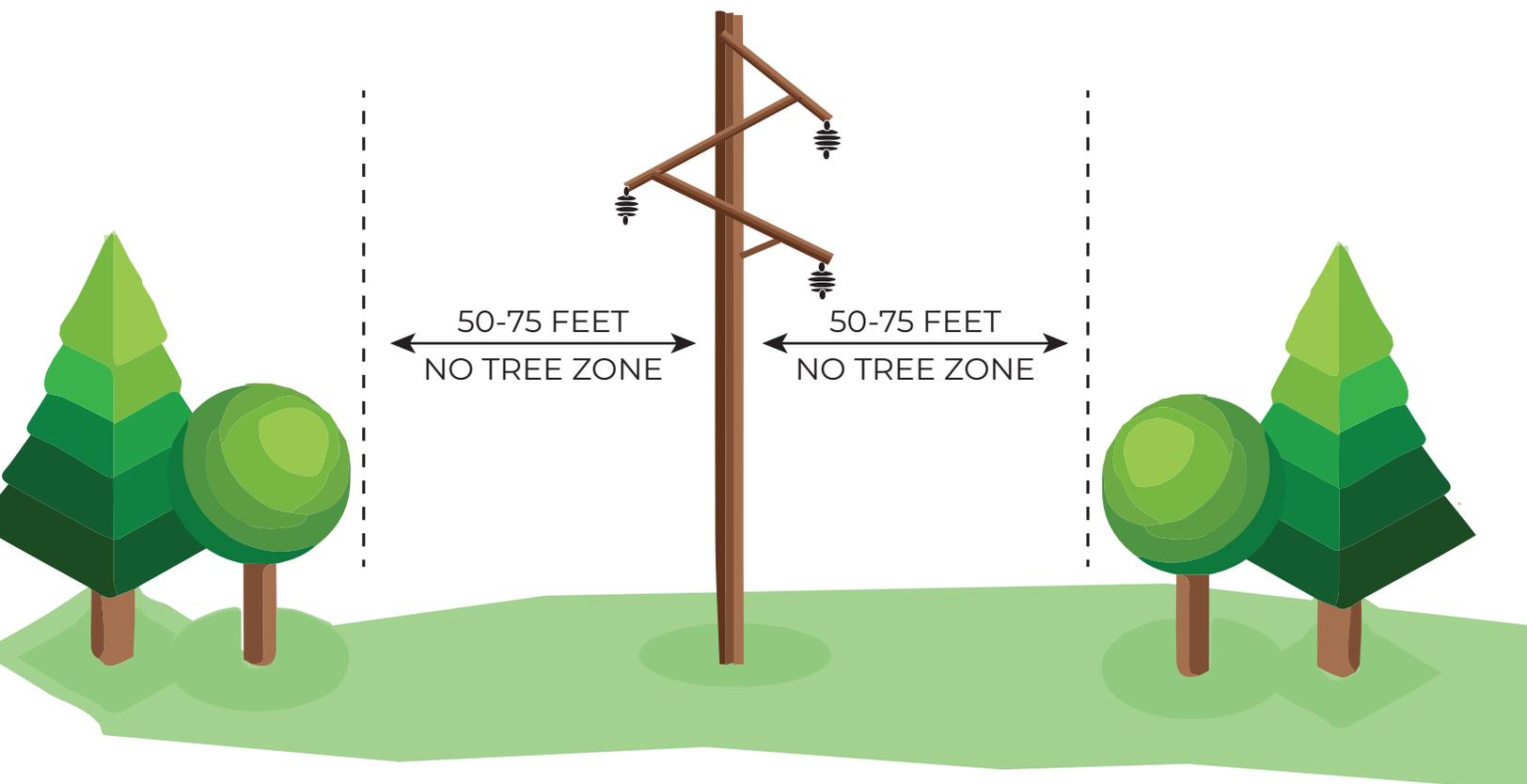
While a tree may appear a bit unusual after lateral pruning, its appearance quickly improves over time.

Debris Cleanup

We will work with landowners to clean up and dispose of the collected brush and unchipped wood. Stumps are normally not removed, but will be cut as close to the ground as practical and treated with an approved herbicide.

PLANTING THE RIGHT TREE IN THE RIGHT PLACE

Trees are very important to the value of your home, the environment and our health, but the wrong tree in the wrong place can be costly for you and Northeast Power. Planning before planting can help ensure that the right tree is planted in the right place. Proper tree selection and placement will prevent costly maintenance and potential damage to our power lines and your property. Additional tree planting reference materials can be found by visiting our website at www.northeast-power.coop/right-of-way or by contacting our Right-of-Way Manager at 573.769.2107.





Northeast Power is a non-profit transmission electric cooperative headquartered in Palmyra, Missouri. We are owned by the eight member-distribution cooperatives we serve; three in southeast Iowa and five in northeast Missouri.

We are part of a three-tiered not-for-profit cooperative system; member-distribution, transmission and generation. Northeast Power is part of the second level, transmission, which is primarily responsible for transmission services and delivery of wholesale power to our member-distribution cooperatives. We own and maintain more than 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission line, 95 distribution substations that serve our member-distribution cooperatives, as well as 17 69 kilovolt (kV) switch stations and five 161/69 kV transmission substations. Northeast Power also maintains a 345/161 kV substation that is owned by our power supplier, Associated Electric Cooperative Inc. (Associated).

Our three-tiered cooperative system brings efficiency through specialization at each level of the system and is fully focused on providing safe, affordable and reliable electricity to member-owners at the end of the line.

QUESTIONS?

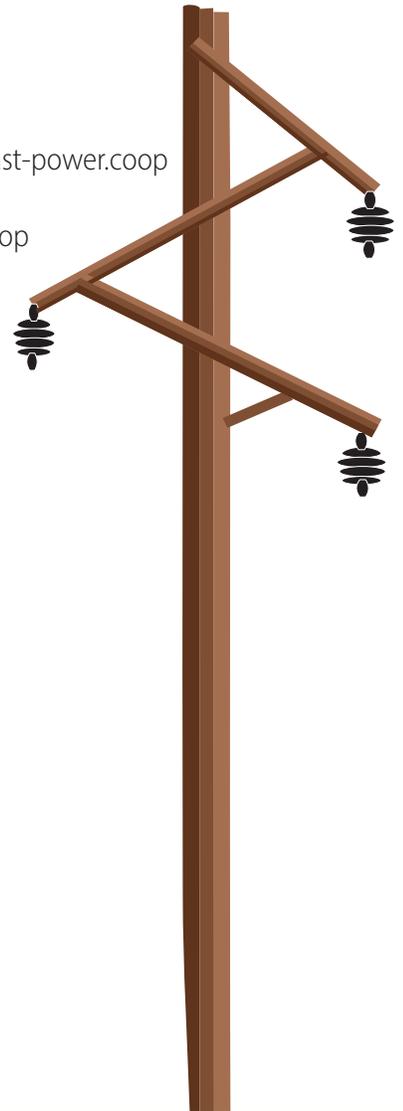
If you have any questions or concerns or want more information about our vegetation management program, please contact us.

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Learn more at www.northeast-power.coop/integrated-vegetation-management