



Plan Before You Plant

Consider this small sapling will grow in width as well as height. Plan for future growth while remaining outside the utility right of way at the tree's maturity.

Think safety before you plant a tree. Trees are climbable structures and children love to climb. Don't let your child play in a tree located close to a high-voltage line.

If you see a problem with a tree, on or near the line, you should not attempt to clear the line. It is very important to call TVEPA if you notice a problem with trees contacting power lines. Never try to remove them yourself.

Remember safety first.

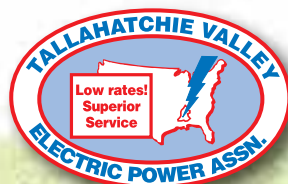
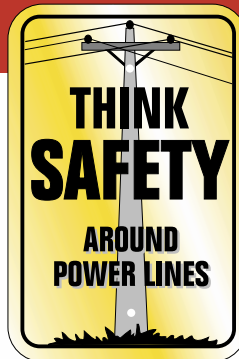
Use extreme caution while installing antennas, working from a ladder, painting near a line, or pruning trees with a pole saw.

Remember...

Trees may serve many purposes in urban and rural areas. They can screen unpleasant views, cool the air, moderate noises, glare and wind as well as provide aesthetic and psychological benefits. To assure safe and reliable electric service, trimming or removal of trees is sometimes necessary.

Branches or stems that rub against power lines can cause short circuits, particularly when contact is made with more than one line. Broken branches and trees blown over in storms can cut the lines or pull them down. The resulting outages affect public safety by interrupting service to fire alarms, emergency medical equipment and traffic lights. Commercial users may suffer business losses, while residential users, at the very least, are inconvenienced. TVEPA's goal is to provide its members with reliable service, and that means maintaining the trees and vegetation that grow along the right of way.

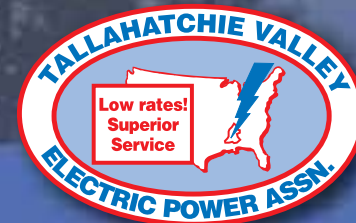
By keeping the right of way clear, we are able to safely restore your power in less time. This also helps us hold down costs. By following planting guidelines, you can help. Remember, those tiny trees can become tall trees with far reaching limbs. Plant wisely so you can enjoy your trees for years to come.



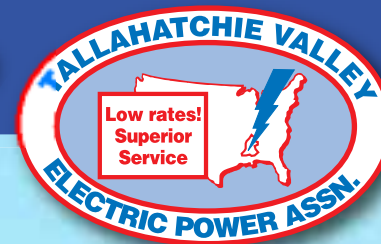
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Trees and Power Lines **Do Not Mix**

Why is Tallahatchie Valley EPA Trimming My Trees?



Why right-of-way management must be done



- Improves reliability by preventing outages
- Reduces power line damage
- Less costly to prevent damage than to repair
- Improves safety for you and your loved ones

Questions and Answers:

Question: Why do I sometimes lose power, especially during high winds or storms?

Answer: High winds and storms can cause trees and other vegetation to come in contact with energized conductors, causing a direct connection with ground. This in turn will cause momentary or complete loss of power. This may eventually cause the devices on the main line to break the circuit, creating a loss of power on the entire line.

Question: Do you have to cut my trees?

Answer: Trees are a beautiful asset to the TVEPA service area but our right of way must be maintained to prevent power outages. No one wants to be without power for an extended period of time. Hospitals, schools, businesses, customers on life support, traffic signals, and other utilities all depend on a constant electrical supply. This can only be accomplished by proper tree management practices.

Question: My trees are not touching the lines. Why do you have to trim them?

Answer: When determining whether to trim a tree, or how much to trim, several factors will influence this decision:

1. Will strong winds cause the tree to sway into the lines?
2. Sagging lines due to high temperatures may cause contact.
3. Estimating the growth and structure of the tree could warrant trimming.
4. The estimated time between trimming cycles.
5. Planning ahead minimizes outages.

- Question:** How far away from the power line do you trim?
- Answer:** All circuits are trimmed 15 feet from center line of the right of way. We must maintain a minimum clearance around the line. If the tree has grown under the line, it is best to remove the tree completely if possible.
- Question:** Under what circumstances can you enter my property and trim my trees?
- Answer:** TVEPA has a responsibility to maintain the electric system in such a way that reliable electric service is safely and consistently provided to everyone on our system. The easement (property where the poles and lines are located) allows access to the lines. As a member of the Association and receiving electric service from TVEPA, you have agreed to the Association's bylaws. The bylaws ensure that all members agree to give this easement.
- Question:** Who is responsible for the debris cut in my yard?
- Answer:** TVEPA will remove the debris cut from your yard.

Tree Planting Chart

Remember to plan for the growth of the tree you plant.

