

TIPTON MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

TREE TRIMMING POLICY

In order to provide reliable electric power to our electric customers, it is necessary to maintain our distribution system by trimming or removing trees that encroach onto our distribution system and create a threat to its' reliability. The following is our current policy:

1. **Primary Lines** - Electric Department personnel will trim all trees that are a hazard to our primary lines. All limbs will be removed that could possibly touch the wires and create an outage or safety issue for our customers. We will make every attempt to not destroy the natural beauty of the tree, but our primary goal is maintaining the reliability of the system, not the beauty of the tree. If the homeowner would prefer the encroaching tree be removed, it will be done so at the discretion of the Electric Superintendent. If it is a larger tree, and the Superintendent deems that it is unsafe for our equipment or personnel to remove it, we will trim the tree only to minimize the risk to our system. It will be the homeowners responsibility to remove the tree at their expense, or trim it to their satisfaction, if they so desire.
2. **Secondary Lines** - Trees that affect the reliability of the secondary lines shall be the responsibility of the homeowner. These are lines running from the transformer to the residence or business. As a service to the rate payer, the Electric Department personnel will lower the secondary lines to allow a third party to remove the homeowners' tree and then re-connect at no charge, during normal business hours. This should be coordinated with the Electric Department Superintendent at least 72 hours in advance of the planned work.
3. The above policy shall be administered by the Electric Department Superintendent in a fair and consistent manner and with the safety of Utility Personnel in mind at all times.
4. Every effort will be made to accommodate our rate payer's desires, but it must be kept in mind that our primary duty is to provide reliable electric energy to our customers and not to trim trees.