

The LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE has the following maintenance rights; to enter said premises to inspect line, to perform necessary maintenance and repairs: to remove from the ROW/Easement strip, at any time, any trees, including yard trees that may endanger the proper maintenance and operation of lines and remove trees of any species that LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE determines will grow at maturity to a height that will endanger the proper maintenance and operation of said lines & create a hazard to the general public; to trim or remove and to keep trimmed or removed dead, diseased, weak or leaning trees or limbs outside of the ROW/Easement strip which, in the opinion of the LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, might interfere with or fall upon LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE's facilities within the right of way strip from center line on each side.

1. Contacts with Property Owners: A bona fide attempt shall be made to contact all the property owners before re clearing is done. When crews see that the property owner is using right of way for growing Christmas trees, ornamental trees, or shrubbery the property owner shall be contacted before any re clearing is to be done

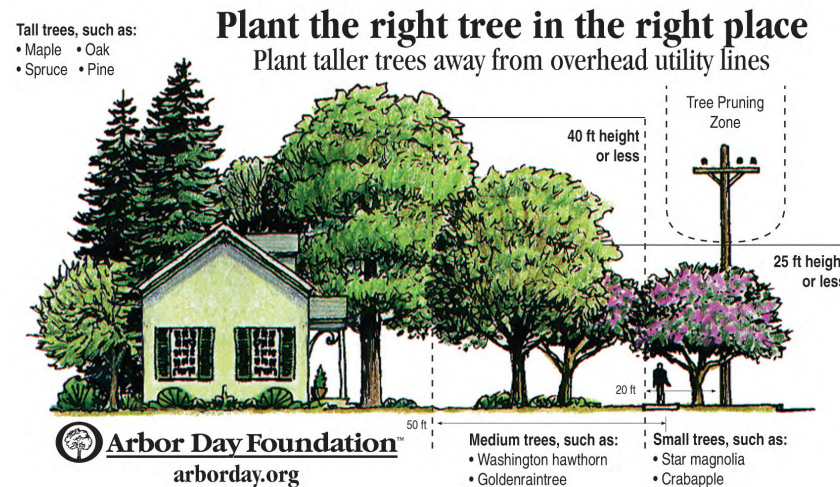
2. Protection of Property: All ROW/Easement re clearing shall be performed in such manner as to protect the property owners inside and outside the rights of way. When property damage occurs, full restoration and/or settlement shall be made promptly.

3. Property owners outside of ROW/Easement : Occasionally the need arises to cross property outside of the ROW/Easement to gain access to said ROW/Easement. All reasonable attempts to contact property owner will be made to gain access to ROW/Easement for line clearing/re-clearing. All protection of property rights stated in paragraph #2 will apply to neighboring property used to gain access to ROW/Easement.

Right-of-Way Coordinator
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Right-of-Way / Easement Procedure



I. Purpose

To set forth environmental standards for ROW/Easement maintenance programs to assure a minimum adverse impact on the environment in balance with budget considerations; and to assure good acceptance of LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES programs by property owners, members and the public. This practice applies to maintenance of distribution and fiber rights-of-way.

II. ROW/EASEMENT CLEARING AND RE-CLEARING SPECIFICATIONS

A. Aerial primary line will be cleared a width of 30 feet, 15 feet on each side of a centerline. Trees outside the 15 feet limit will be trimmed, or removed if determined to be dead or leaning heavily toward line.

B. Danger trees (dead, dying, diseased, washed out) in or along the ROW/Easement, which also present reasonable risks shall be removed or pruned to the extent that the hazard is removed.

C. Pruning techniques utilized shall be in accordance with established, sound horticultural principles. These principles include natural or lateral pruning, drop crotching (v cut), and directional pruning. Branches or limbs, which must be removed, are to be pruned back to a supporting branch or to the trunk of the tree whenever possible.

D. Minimum tree trimming clearances between conductor and trees or limbs are as follows:

1. Aerial Primary Lines: Minimum tree trimming clearances between primary phase conductor and trees or limbs are as follows: This applies to shade and lawn trees, towns, and subdivisions.

- Top Clearance 15 feet below Neutral or Fiber
- Side Clearance 15 feet
- Overhang will be completely removed

2. Open wire secondary (less than 600V) will be free of tree contacts with a minimum clearance of five (15) feet. Other secondaries and service drops shall be pruned to remove any obvious line damaging limbs. These are limbs of a size substantial enough that through continued rubbing, or pressure due to weight, will likely lead to service interruptions.

E. Down, span and other guys shall be considered part of the line ROW/Easement as far as line clearing principles go. Vines shall be cut loose from poles and guys and sprayed to prevent further growth.

F. Adequate side trimming to maintain 15 feet clearance from centerline will be done simultaneously with hand clearing, machine clearing, and chemical application. Tree limbs should not be left hanging over the line.

III. PRACTICE

A. Re-clearing Methods:

1. Hand Cutting: This method may be used on all system rights of way. Complete re clearing may be done in remote areas. Selective hand cutting shall be done in rights of way within 50 feet of houses and other buildings. Selective hand cutting means leaving small bushes, shrubbery, ornamentals, etc.

2. Brush Hog: This method may be used on all system rights of way. Selective hand cutting shall be done instead of brush hogging within 50 feet of houses and other buildings and selective hand cutting and screening may be done instead of brush hogging.

3. Chemical: Types of chemicals and locations where used shall meet the recommendations of the appropriate governmental agencies. Low volume applications of chemicals that effect tree growth by contact and do not transfer or threaten desirable tree growth may be used. Site selection for chemical applications will consider the environmental impact to the area.

4. Machine Clearing: This method of clearing rights-of-way will be used in all areas of LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES lines where applicable. This includes the use of large machines (hydro-axe, flail mowers, rotary head mowers, etc.) to promote clean, cost efficient, & safe rights-of-way for line-workers & the membership at large. Machine clearing will not be used within 100 feet of houses.

IV. Property Owners:

Easements: ROW/Easement easements permit LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE to maintain rights of way. Where a written easement is not available, LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE S standard maintenance rights apply as stated below: LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE S standard easement to maintain its electrical facilities is a width of 30 feet, 15 feet on each side of a centerline determined by the centerline of the electrical facilities as installed.