

# DON'T LET THE CRY OF 'TIMBER' SHIVER OR SPLINTER YOUR TIMBERS



**Trimming and removal of trees can be dangerous work.** *Consider these common dangers before attempting a project on your own.*

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**ELECTROCUTION:** If there's a chance power lines might be involved at all, always call your electric utility first and its experts will come out and advise you.

**FALLING:** Always make sure you are using appropriate safety harnesses and ropes. Before climbing, inspect the tree to make sure no power lines run through or near the tree.

**BEING STRUCK:** Improper cutting can cause the tree to fall where you hadn't planned. Always have two escape routes planned in case the tree starts going the wrong way.

**OVERESTIMATING:** You can be seriously injured or killed if you overestimate your abilities.





# Why we clear rights-of-way



To provide safe, reliable electrical service from overhead power lines, electric co-ops start on the ground: in the right-of-way under and around power lines.

A **right-of-way** is an agreement with property owners that grants the electric cooperative the right to manage small portions of that property for the purpose of maintaining power lines that bring electricity.

Generally, the **most common cause for power outages** and for blinking lights is **trees that make contact with power lines**. Limbs that touch power lines can become energized or even break and fall, bringing the lines down with them. Right-of-way programs **trim, control and, if necessary, remove trees and other vegetation around 10 to 15 feet** on either side of the center line of electric lines.