



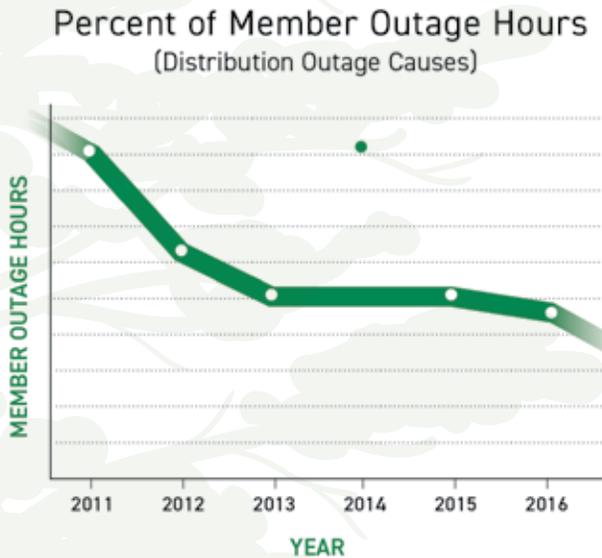
HELP KEEP THE POWER ON!

The mission of Adams Electric is to provide safe, reliable power at competitive costs and improve the quality of life in the communities it serves. The vegetation management program plays a major role in fulfilling this mission.

A four-year vegetation management cycle allows the cooperative to preventively clear and trim trees and other vegetation that threaten Adams' distribution system. This gives you better and safer service and allows crews to handle maintenance and repairs more quickly.

IMPROVING RELIABILITY

Before taking a more comprehensive approach to vegetation management, over half of all the cooperative's outages were attributed to trees. The current vegetation management program helps prevent outages due to trees falling on lines, improves safety, and allows crews to more quickly access problem areas and make repairs.



This chart shows the downward trend of outages due to tree-related causes after the four-year more comprehensive approach was started. The percentage of member outage hours caused by trees (excluding major storms and power supply issues) has been cut nearly in half from 2011 to 2016.

2014's data has been plotted but not trended due to a February ice storm that skewed results.

KEEPING COMMUNITIES SAFE

WHILE CLEARING THE AREAS TO THE SIDE OF RIGHTS OF WAY IS IMPORTANT TO RELIABILITY, IT IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO CLEAR THE BASEMENTS AND UNDERBRUSH FOR SAFETY.

The lines and equipment that carry electricity are dangerous and should always be considered live and harmful. The cooperative asks everyone to stay away from lines and equipment that carry electricity. In the event of an accident, equipment has protective devices that must "ground out" or fall to the ground to activate. The equipment should deenergize the line when it hits the ground. Although these devices are not foolproof, and all lines should be treated as live and dangerous, devices cannot do their job and deenergize the lines if they get hung up in decorative trees or shrubbery directly beneath power lines. With safety as a priority, Adams Electric must maintain under the lines to keep cooperative crews; the public; and pets and livestock unharmed.



Members are invited to stop by the vegetation management exhibit at the cooperative's annual meeting to discuss specific questions with employees.

“TROUBLE TREES”

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK I HAVE A TREE THREATENING A CO-OP LINE?

If you have a tree on your property that could cause a power outage, contact Adams Electric. Someone will visit your property for an evaluation.

- 1** If the tree is deemed a threat to **ONLY** Adams Electric’s primary system...
the co-op will plan to have the tree cut (removed) or trimmed.
- 2** If the tree is threatening **ONLY** your service wire or property...
you will be asked to make those arrangements at your expense. If you are concerned about safety, call 888/232-6732 and we will disconnect and reconnect your service during tree maintenance at no charge to you.
- 3** If the tree is a threat to **BOTH** the co-op’s system and your property...
you may be asked to share in the cost of cutting or trimming the tree. If agreed upon, your share will be added to your electric bill.

The member is responsible for debris that is generated by storm damage and resulting restoration efforts, as well as debris left behind from regular maintenance. While vegetation crews may cut branches into manageable lengths, they will not grind out or remove stumps.

IF YOU ARE ON THE TREE CYCLE ROUTE...

Adams Electric works in a four-year vegetation management cycle – meaning all rights-of-way are inspected and trimmed at least once every four years. If your property is on the route for the year’s cycle, you will be notified in two ways. A few months before work is scheduled at your property, you will receive a post card. No further action is needed. Closer to the work date, a representative from a tree trimming contractor crew will attempt to contact you in-person, by phone or by a door hanger notification to discuss the scope of work.

Keep in mind, all companies who contract with the co-op will have an Adams Electric contractor ID with them. If you are unsure about who is visiting your property, please contact the cooperative to confirm.





BEFORE & AFTER...



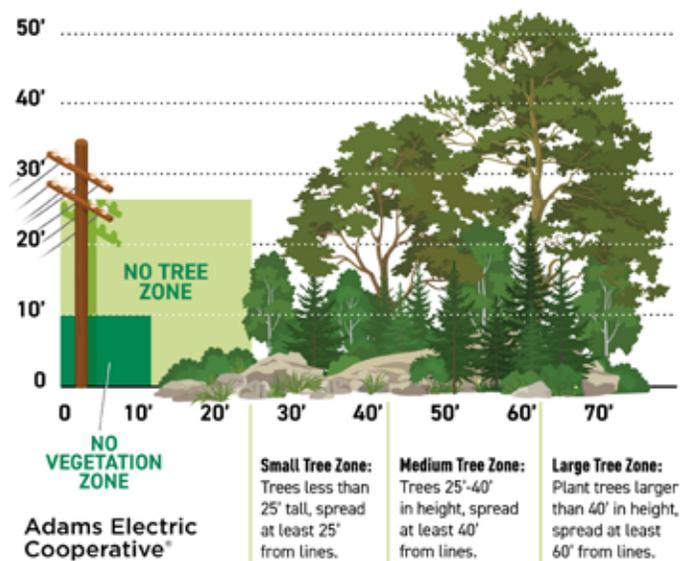
A before and after picture of a right of way near the cooperative's Hanover Substation in Pigeon Hills shows the difference a little clean up can make. The picture on the right shows a safer, more reliable, attractive right of way.

WHAT CAN I PLANT AND WHERE?

The cooperative believes trees are an important part of our environment and community. To avoid dangerous situations and threats to its system, Adams Electric supports the philosophy of, "the right tree in the right place."

As you landscape your property, remember to "look up," and keep these few tips in mind:

TREE PLANTING GUIDE



Cooperate with Adams in its efforts to provide dependable and safe electricity by maintaining easement areas.



Plant the right tree in the right place. Never plant vegetation too close or under power lines.



Follow all instructions posted on electrical equipment.



Report any trees that may threaten the cooperative's service.



Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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