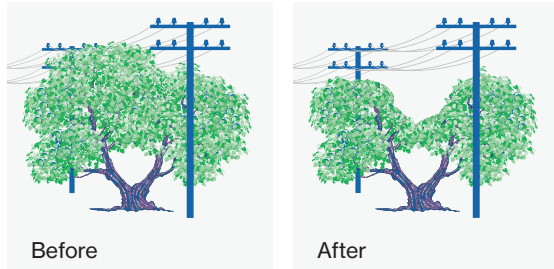


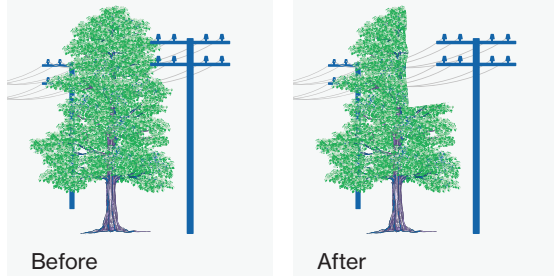
What will the trees look like after they are trimmed?

AES Indiana's tree contractors remove limbs to provide a minimum of 15' of clearance below and to the sides of the lines and a minimum of 15' above the line. In cases of poor circuit reliability we will remove all branches that overhang the conductor. The amount is determined by tree species and site characteristics. The illustrations below are examples of typical before and after scenarios.

Veering out the top for utility line clearance



Side trimming for utility line clearance



Height reduction for utility line clearance



What if I do not want my trees trimmed?

Trees and limbs pose a threat to the safety and service reliability of our customers. However, if you do not wish for your trees to be pruned, you must notify AES Indiana's line clearing office. Failure to grant AES Indiana permission to prune trees may put you at risk for potential liability issues due to outages caused by your trees.

Are there any trees that can be planted under electric lines?

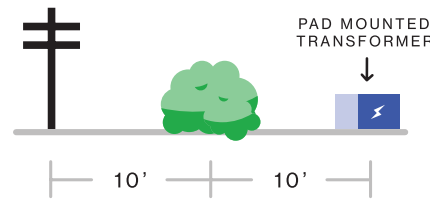
Yes, there are some trees that are compatible with electric lines. However, there are many things to consider before purchasing or planting trees near electric lines. For more information or to view a list of power line compatible trees, go to aesindiana.com/tree-trimming.

What does Right Tree / Right Place mean?

Improper or misplaced trees often cause power outages during severe weather and can be dangerous when branches come in contact with power lines. Prevention is the key when it comes to reducing the number of tree-related power outages. Therefore, selecting an appropriate species and location for your tree is imperative. Remember, no tree is perfect for all locations. Where you plant a tree is just as important to consider as the tree's size, shape, rate of growth and coloring.

Transformers and other equipment

If you have a AES Indiana transformer or other



equipment on your property, AES Indiana must have easy access to ensure safe and reliable service for you. Keep walkways and work areas clear – at least 10 feet in front, three feet to the sides and rear and 25 feet above the piece of equipment – allowing our crews to safely work on the equipment. Plants, fences, decks or other structures within the service area zone may have to be removed if crews need access to our equipment. AES Indiana is not liable for damage to plants or other property prohibiting safe access to our equipment.

AES Indiana Contact Information

Email aesindianatreertrimming@aes.com
For electric outages/wires down 317.261.8111
Customer Service 317.261.8222
[Line Clearing Office](http://aesindiana.com/tree-trimming) 317.261.8128
For locating underground facilities
Indiana Underground Plant Protection.....800-382-5544

www.aesindiana.com/tree-trimming



Vegetation
management
near electric lines

FAQs

Misplaced or improperly maintained trees often cause power outages and can be dangerous when branches come in contact with power lines.

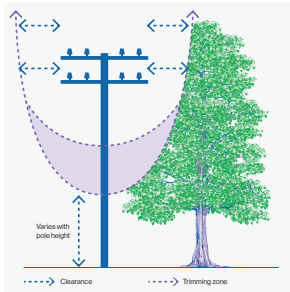
To prevent contact, AES Indiana has a comprehensive tree-pruning, line-clearing program.



These are some of the **most common questions** asked about the program.

Why do you prune and remove trees from around electric wires?

To provide you with safe and reliable electric service, we must periodically prune or remove trees near our electric lines. Fallen trees or debris from trees cause many outages and can create dangerous situations when they knock down electric lines. Trees near electric lines also pose a real danger to children who might climb them.



How will I know when to expect your crews?

AES Indiana has several methods of communication to announce upcoming line clearance work. Listed below is AES Indiana's notification process.

- **Three months prior:** HOA packet distributed.
- **One month prior:** Letter mailed to customer address. Public notice printed in the newspaper.
- **Two weeks prior:** Visit to residence.

How much will this cost me?

Since pruning and removals are limited to only what is necessary for line clearance and safety, it is a maintenance cost covered in the electric rates and is paid for by all our customers. There is no additional charge for this service.

We currently spend about \$11 million annually pruning and removing trees on our system.

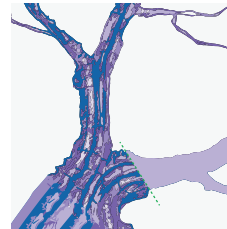
Why do you prune only one side of some of the trees? Doesn't that throw them off balance?

We prune only what is necessary for electric safety and reliability. For trees to the side of the lines, we do what is known as side pruning. Removing healthy limbs from the opposite sides of trees just to balance their looks may compromise their health and make them hazardous.

Trees are not balanced on their trunks at the soil line. Rather, they are anchored by extensive root systems that spread out like a plate just below the soil surface. Keeping the trees healthy is the best way to prevent them from becoming a hazard.

What do you mean by natural pruning?

Natural pruning simply means removing a limb at the point where it grows from either another limb or the trunk of tree. Making a proper cut will help prevent decay and reduce excessive sprouting. Stubbed off limbs do not seal, allowing decay to occur. These limbs either die back or produce rapidly growing watersprouts. These watersprouts can increase the height of the tree and easily break during wind and ice storms. By using natural pruning methods, trees stay healthier and less frequent pruning is needed.



Why do you prune more on some trees than on others?

The amount of pruning needed depends on two things - the type of conductor and the type of tree. Our Transmission and Distribution Main Lines need the most clearance. Tree contacts with these are serious safety hazards and can cause major electric service outages. Service lines can withstand minor contact with trees, but they still must have a clear path to the house. Customers are responsible for maintaining the vegetation around the lines to their homes.

Different trees have different branching patterns and growth rates. Limbs that overhang our main lines require removal. Faster growing tree species may need to be trimmed more than Slower growing tree species.

Other factors that determine the amount that needs pruning include a tree's movement in windy conditions and its ability to be climbed.

Will AES Indiana remove the debris?

Yes. Debris associated with the scheduled line clearing work will be removed within 48 hours of being completed. Debris left from "emergency" work will not be removed. Emergency work includes, but is not limited to, storm restoration, equipment repairs or unsafe conditions such as limbs dangerously close or touching power lines or electrical equipment. Logs greater than four inches in diameter are stacked at the base of the tree from which they came. These logs are cut to handling length and left for the property owner's use.

AES Indiana offers mulch to its customers free of charge. If you are interested in receiving free mulch, contact the line clearing office at [317.261.8128](tel:317.261.8128).

Will you trim the service lines to our house?

Pruning will be done around the main lines from pole to pole. Maintaining the service line from the pole to the house (service drop) is the homeowner's responsibility. To assist you in maintaining the service drop, AES Indiana will disconnect the electric service so that you or your contractor can safely do the work. This service is provided to you at no charge. Please make your request at least two working days in advance.

Why do you have to remove trees?

Directly under electric facilities is the wrong place for tall-growing trees. They will not reach mature height or grow to their natural shape. They can be a danger to people who climb them. These trees should be removed and replaced with smaller growing trees.

Many of these trees are volunteers; that is, they were planted by birds (mulberries and cherries), animals (walnuts and oaks), or blown in by the wind (maples, cottonwoods and elms). Some are planted by people who do not realize how tall the trees will grow. Remember to plant the right tree in the right place. Tall-growing trees should be planted at least fifty feet away from electric lines.

What trees should I avoid planting near electric lines?

Trees that are easy to climb and fast-growing trees with weak branching patterns should not be planted near electric lines. Pines, especially white pine, are among the easiest trees for children to climb. Siberian elm, weeping willow and silver maple tend to have tight branch unions that easily split under a heavy water or snow load or during high winds.