

Heber Light & Power

Trees planted near power lines are a constant threat to the Heber Light & Power (HL&P) electrical system. To ensure customer safety and electrical system reliability HL&P maintains an aggressive tree trimming program.

Customer Information:

1. Customer Responsibilities

- a. A year round, proactive HL&P tree trimming policy is a preventative measure and customer cooperation has a major role in the policy's success.
- b. Do not plant large or fast growing trees under or near existing power lines.
- c. Call HL&P if you notice any tree that is within 10 feet of a power line.
- d. Customers can go to the Arbor Day Foundation website (www.arborday.org) to verify the potential size and shape of specific trees before they plant them.

2. When planting, be sure to consider the following

- a. The location of all existing power lines in the area.
- b. The type of tree being planted and its proximity to the power line.
- c. Necessary clearances, National Electric Code (NEC) & National Electric Safety Code (NESC) require trees to have a 10 foot clearance from all power lines. Clearance distance includes below, above and on either side of all power lines.
- d. Be sure to consider future growth of the tree(s) being planted. Only plant trees that mature at 20 feet or less near power lines.
- e. **Call Blue Stakes at 811 to locate underground power lines two days before planting trees.**

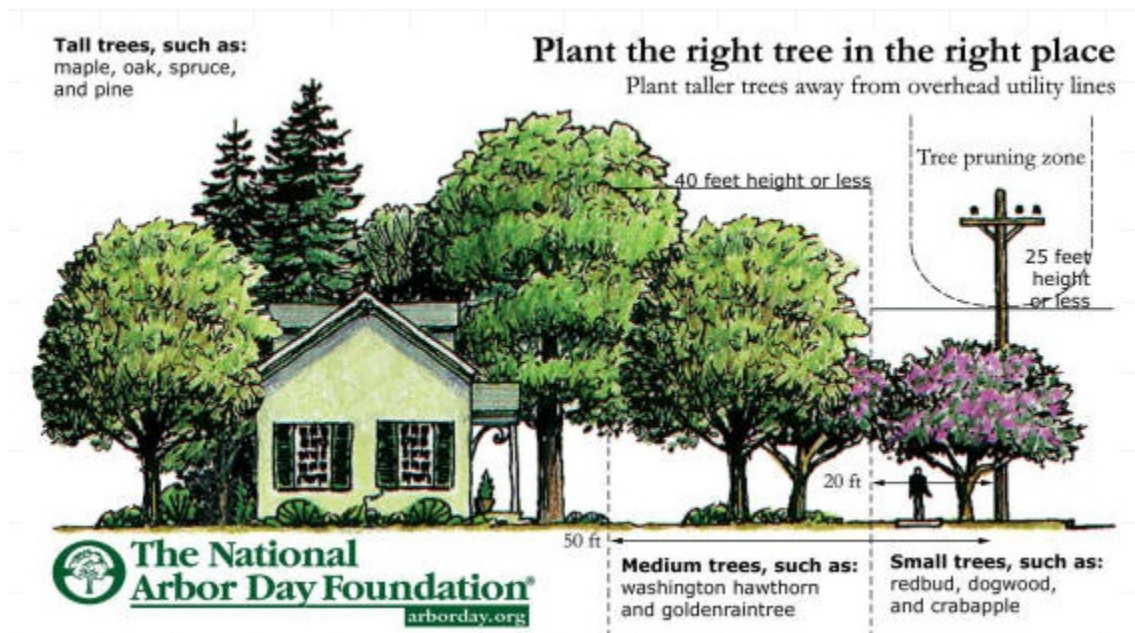


Figure 1 – Preferred Tree Locations

3. Who is authorized to trim trees that are near power lines

- a. The customer should not attempt to trim any tree that is near a power line. Customers may hire a professional tree trimming crew at their own expense or call HL&P and we will have our professional tree trimming crew perform the work free of charge, if the work is deemed necessary.
- b. Upon request, HL&P will trim a tree limb that is on a service drop (the power line that connects to the house or building). We do this service free of charge during normal business hours. HL&P will not perform clean up or remove the limb from the premises.

Heber Light & Power Information

1. The Purpose of the HL&P Tree Trimming Policy

- a. Customer safety is the major concern when dealing with trees that encroach into the power lines.
- b. Power outages and system reliability are also affected by trees that grow into HL&P's power lines.
- c. HL&P's Tree Trimming Policy is intended to prevent accidents and outages using proactive tree trimming practices.

2. Right of Ways and Tree Trimming

- a. HL&P has the right to trim trees before they become a problem. HL&P hires professional tree trimming crews to maintain safe electrical right of way corridors throughout its service territory.
- b. Tree trimming crews trim trees that are close to power lines and electrical facilities. Crews hired by HL&P will not trim for phone, cable television or any other telecommunication lines.

3. Methods of Trimming

- a. There are various techniques used to trim trees that are too close to power lines. Depending on the size and shape of the tree and its proximity the power line, differing techniques will be used.

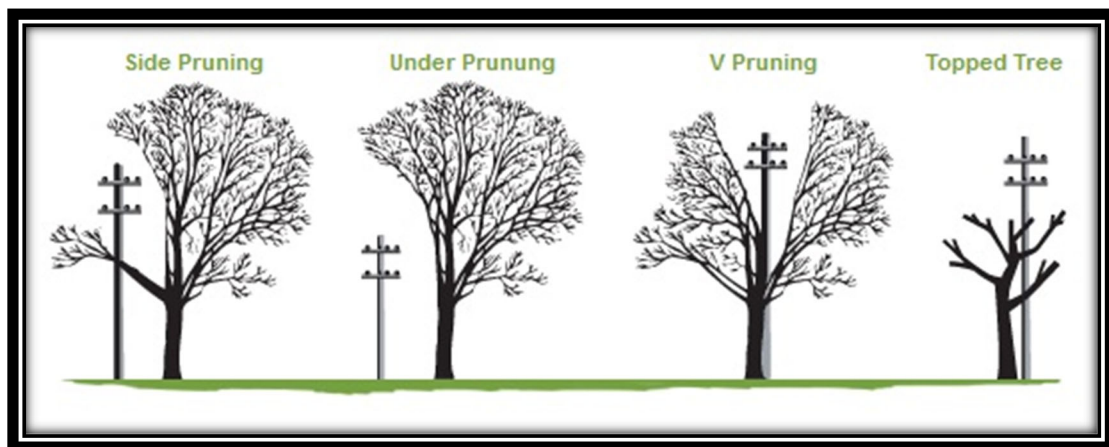


Figure 2 – Typical Tree Trimming Techniques

4. Tree Removal

- a. When a tree is deemed hazardous, diseased, or cannot be pruned effectively without significant impact to its health or shape, HL&P will suggest complete removal.

Frequently Asked Questions (Q&A):

1. Will I be notified before my tree is trimmed?

- a. Yes, a 48 hour notice will be placed on the customer's front door. We will proceed with the work if we have not heard from the customer after the 48 hour period.

2. When will the tree trimming crew perform the work?

- b. HL&P tree trimming work will normally be from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday-Friday excluding Holidays and emergencies. During emergency situations involving safety and/or power outages it may not be possible to notify the customer prior to trimming trees and vegetation. Tree limbs and debris from storm activity will be left on site and will be the customer's responsibility to clean up and dispose of.

3. What if I don't want my tree to be trimmed?

- a. HL&P has the right to trim trees that are encroaching into the 10 foot clearance safety zone.

4. Will I be charged for the tree trimming on my property?

- a. No, HL&P incurs the costs for the tree trimming crews that are hired by HL&P. However, a customer may choose to hire their own certified professional tree trimming crew at their own expense.

5. Will my trees be trimmed by professionals?

- a. Yes, all HL&P crews have at least one certified arborist.

6. What will my tree look like after being trimmed?

- a. Directional pruning concentrates on removing limbs back to a lateral branch. This type of pruning reduces how fast the tree grows back and directs most growth away from the power lines. HL&P realizes that the appearance of the tree may suffer, however this type of trimming is healthier than older techniques such as "Topping" or "Shading" methods. (see figure 2 - Typical Tree Trimming Techniques)

7. Will HL&P remove my tree completely?

- a. If the tree is deemed to be an ongoing problem, our crews may remove the tree completely with the customer's permission.

8. Can I keep the wood from the trimmed tree?

- a. Yes, at the customer's request our crews will leave the wood from the trimmed tree(s).

9. Where can I find information on what types of trees to plant under power lines?

- a. There are many websites on the internet that deal solely with trees, their growth patterns and proper trimming techniques.

10. Online References:

- a. www.arborday.org
- b. www.isa-arbor.com
- c. www.tcia.org