

Oncor Make Ready Program

If an Oncor customer has a tree that is within 10 feet from an Oncor overhead pole to pole line that they would like to have limbs cleared back in order to remove or trim a tree, or that their tree trimming contractor refuses to trim trees until limbs are removed from our lines, this is called a “Make Ready” trim.

On a “Make Ready” trim, Oncor Vegetation Management Contractors will prune and leave ALL the pruning’s and debris for the property owner.

Sometimes the request is because the tree is dead or dying, in the path of some project they are working on or they have indicated that they themselves or a private Arborist is going to be in the space near the high voltage power lines.

Only Oncor and its VM Contractors can prune in close proximity to high voltage lines as described in Texas Health & Safety Codes.

An Oncor Customer can call the number on their electric bill, explain the situation and ask for a “Make Ready” trim.

The customer will need to provide a good daytime contact phone number and a description of the tree, whether it’s dead or alive, its location, etc.

An Oncor Representative or the Oncor Vegetation Management Contractor will call to schedule a meeting prior to the actual work for inspection, documentation, etc.

This service is not available for pole to house lines. Please contact the number on your bill to inquire about additional services available for those situations.

Please call Oncor at 1-888-313-6862 for more information

or visit: <http://www.ou.com/EN/Pages/Tree-Pruning.aspx>

[Public Utility Commission Fact Sheet](#)-this link has information regarding power lines and trees



Tree Pruning at a Glance

Oncor is committed to delivering safe and reliable electric service and works to reduce tree-related power outages.

Trees, lightning and wildlife are three primary reasons for power outages. Of the three, Oncor has the most control over trees. Although Oncor can never prune enough to completely eliminate tree-related outages, a good tree program can drastically reduce tree outages for a long period of time. Besides causing power outages, trees that grow near power lines pose a serious safety risk – not only for workers but for anyone who might climb trees. Trees making contact with power lines can also become a fire hazard.

Many different factors affect the amount of pruning Oncor does, such as safety rules from regulatory and standards organizations, the type of tree, the distance the tree would sway in high wind, condition of the tree, its proximity to lines and generally accepted industry standards. Trained arborists with extensive experience oversee Oncor's trimming and are available to consult with homeowners about tree pruning schedules in their neighborhoods.

Oncor prunes with industry standards and the health of the tree in mind, targeting a minimum of seven feet of clearance for distribution circuits but may prune a tree further or even remove it to assure the safe delivery of electricity.

Transmission Rights of Way (ROW) facilities have different clearance requirements than distribution facilities. Maintaining vegetation on transmission facilities should be designed to establish grass or pasture land with no trees or shrubs on the ROW. This allows for utility personnel to access transmission facilities, to be able to work safely on them and repair or restore service to the line. Maintaining the proper clearance also helps eliminate the possibility of tree-related interference or outages along transmission lines. The distance of clearance required is determined by the voltage of the power line and the ROW easement document pertaining to a specific property.



Oncor will notify residents at least five days in advance via a door hanger before pruning trees. Property owners may have options to reduce the impact on their trees, but they can be expensive. Oncor will meet with property owners to discuss their choices. Oncor removes any debris created by regularly planned maintenance of trees. For more information on tree pruning, check the Oncor website, <http://www.oncor.com> or call 888.313.6862.