



NES' Process for Tree Trimming in your Neighborhood

NES will notify all customers affected by the trimming before NES crews begin work.

The Communications Process

- NES will send you a postcard letting you know we will be starting trimming in the area.
- You will receive an automated phone message informing you that work planners will be in the neighborhood to prepare for the work.
- Work planners and auditors, along with an NES Senior Utility Arborist, will survey necessary trimming and possible tree and brush removal. Tree work to be performed will be marked with fluorescent paint as follows:
- The work planner will contact you in person or leave you a yellow door hanger indicating the work to be done.
- You can call the **Vegetation Management Hotline (695-7400)** with any questions about the work or to request a meeting with the planner.
- If requested, an NES arborist and the work planner or auditor will meet you to discuss the work to be done, possible tree replacement, etc.
- You will receive an automated phone message informing you that trimming is starting in the neighborhood.

- **Green** or **yellow** dot for trimming
- **Red paint** for removal of brush
- **Red X** for removal of tree
- **Green** or **yellow** dot with **yellow** ribbon means NES suggests that the tree be removed

Options for Homeowners

You may be present while trimming work takes place. You may also hire your own tree contractor to perform the trimming, but the contractor must trim to NES specifications on clearances.

The Tree Trimming Process

1. When work begins, the NES tree contractor will attempt to inform you in person at your home that crews are there to perform work.
2. As crews progress through the neighborhood, an auditor and NES arborist will oversee the work. The work is audited to make sure it is performed properly. Workers are advised when completed work is unsatisfactory so they can return and complete the work.

Tree Replacement

NES' Tree Replacement Program replaces trees that NES has removed. If you are getting a tree replaced through the program, it will be planted during the months of November through April. *You will be responsible for maintaining these trees.*



For more information about the NES Tree Trimming Program, go to the NES website at www.nespower.com or call the **NES Tree Trimming Hotline at (615) 695-7400.**

Tree Removals

There are several factors that an NES arborist takes into consideration when determining whether a tree should be removed.

1. *For trees located in the rights of way, NES looks at the location of the tree and determines whether the trunk is within 20 feet of the primary electrical line. Other factors taken into consideration include:*
 - Determining if the tree is diseased, damaged, dead or dying
 - Assessing the structural integrity of the tree, or determining whether there is potential for tree failure
 - Determining the amount of the tree crown that needs to be trimmed
 - Determining whether the tree is within 10 feet of a primary power line pole
2. *For trees located outside of the rights of way, NES looks at the status of the tree and determines whether the trunk is 20 feet or more from primary electrical line. Other factors taken into consideration include:*
 - Determining if the tree is diseased, damaged, dead or dying
 - Assessing the structural integrity of the tree, or determining whether there is potential for tree failure; *those trees will be marked for additional trimming or removal*
 - Determining the amount of the tree crown that needs to be trimmed

Determining Whether Brush Should Be Removed

The main reason NES removes brush from around power poles and lines is to make it safer for our line crews to gain access to make repairs or perform maintenance. The factors we use to determine whether and how much brush to remove are:

1. Will the brush/vines eventually grow into the power lines or onto the poles, down guys or NES equipment?
2. Is the power line accessible with a bucket truck?
3. If the power line is on rear property, and is not accessible with a bucket truck, NES will remove the brush.
4. In non-landscaped areas, a clear path for accessibility for inspection and restoration must be maintained.
5. In landscaped areas, NES will work with you to determine whether the brush is serving a purpose: screening, sound barrier or none. You might be required to maintain landscaping at a certain height or clearance.

If the brush is removed, NES, through our Tree Replacement Program, will work with you in determining the proper location of tree replacements. NES will work with the Metro Public Works Department to obtain tree planting permits to plant tree replacements in rights of way.