Tree Trimming in your Neighborhood: What You Need To Know

- Our goal is to keep customers informed throughout the tree-trimming process. NES will attempt to notify you by sending a postcard in the mail letting you know that trimming is scheduled in your area and by leaving an automated phone message that 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.

- Work planners will attempt to meet with you personally. If you cannot be reached, a door hanger will be left at your home explaining what trimming will occur.

- You are encouraged to call the tree-trimming hotline number, (615) 695-7400, listed on the door hanger if you have any questions.

Tree-Trimming Process

Before work begins, an NES contractor will attempt to notify you in person that crews are there to trim.

An auditor and NES arborist will oversee the trimming to make sure it is performed properly. If any completed work is deemed unsatisfactory, crews will return to correct the issue.

- 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

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

Tree Replacement

If tree or brush removal is necessary, NES offers several replacement options for homeowners. Replacements are planted between November and April. You will be responsible for maintaining these trees.

Tree Removals

Before a tree is removed, there are several factors that must be considered. NES looks at the tree’s location and determines whether the trunk is within 20 feet of the primary electrical line. Other factors include:

- Is the tree diseased, damaged, dead or dying?
- What is the structural integrity of the tree and the potential for tree failure?
- How much of the tree crown needs to be trimmed?
- Is the tree within 10 feet of a primary power pole?

Brush Removal

NES must clear the area around power poles and lines so that crews can safely gain access to make repairs and perform maintenance. NES uses several factors to determine what brush should be removed:

- Will the brush/vines grow into power lines or on poles and other NES equipment?
- Is the power line accessible with a bucket truck?
- NES will remove brush near rear property power lines that are not accessible by a bucket truck.
- A clear path for NES crews must be maintained in nonlandscaped areas.
- In landscaped areas, NES will work with you to determine whether the brush is serving a purpose (e.g., screening, sound barrier, etc.). You may be required to maintain landscaping at a certain height or clearance.

For more information about the NES Tree-Trimming Program, go to the NES website at www.nespower.com.