

What to expect before we work on your property

- Bluebonnet's contractors or employees contact property owners before planned inspections or maintenance work is done within easements on their property.
- A door or gate hanger may be left in advance of planned work.
- When power outages occur, it is not always possible for Bluebonnet to notify members of the need to access their property.



Contractors' vehicles should display both their company's and Bluebonnet's logos.

How to identify Bluebonnet's contractors and employees

- Bluebonnet hires contractors to clear rights-of-way. They wear uniforms with their company logo and have a Bluebonnet contractor sign on the side of their company's vehicle.
- Bluebonnet employees wear Bluebonnet uniform shirts and hard hats and have the Bluebonnet logo on their vehicles.

Call 811 before you dig

Before you dig on your property, please call 811 to learn the location of underground utility lines. Call at least 48 hours before you dig.



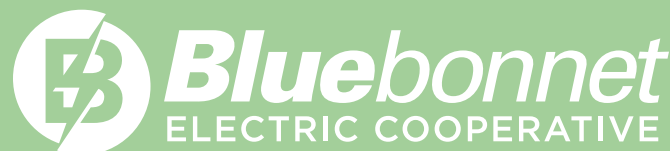
Those green boxes may look interesting, especially to kids, but they house high-voltage equipment. They should not be climbed on and must be kept clear of vegetation.

Stay safe around underground lines

- Large green transformer boxes or the smaller junction boxes often seen in subdivisions should not be obstructed or painted. Trees, shrubs, fencing, decks or decorations, such as planters must be at least 5 feet from the sides and back of the boxes and 10 feet from the front. Nothing should be placed on top of the boxes.
- No one should climb or sit on the boxes.
- The boxes are locked and can only be opened by Bluebonnet employees or authorized contractors to make repairs or restore power.
- If a box is opened, damaged or defaced, please immediately call Bluebonnet at 800-842-7708.

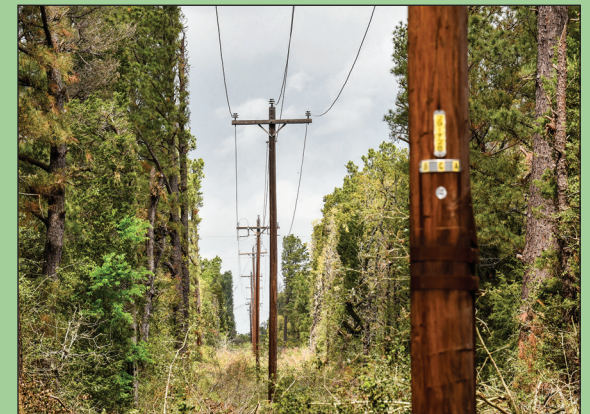
Did you know?

Bluebonnet has more than 285,000 power poles across 14 Central Texas counties.



RIGHT-OF-WAY & TREE TRIMMING

Keeping power lines safe



Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative works to provide reliable power and keep its members and utility workers safe.

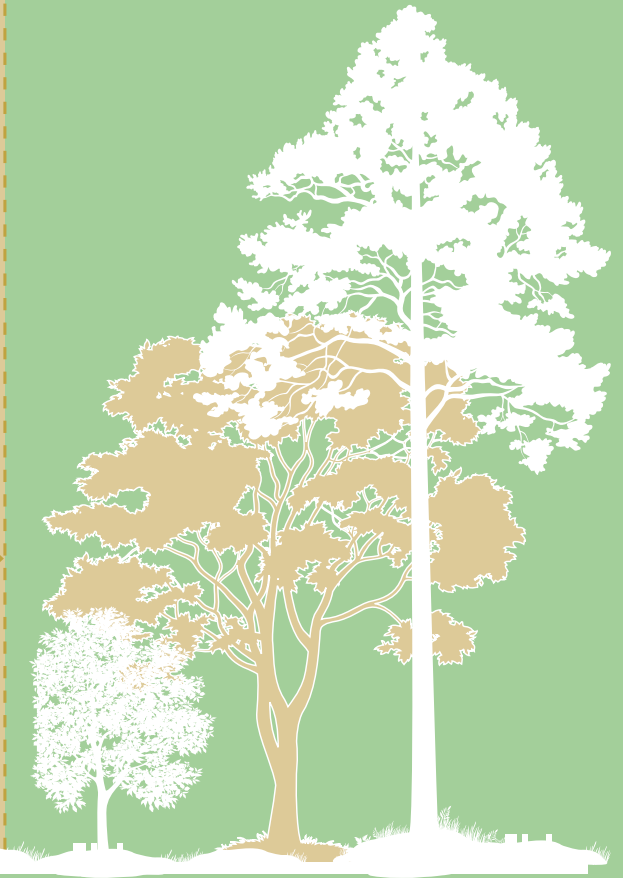
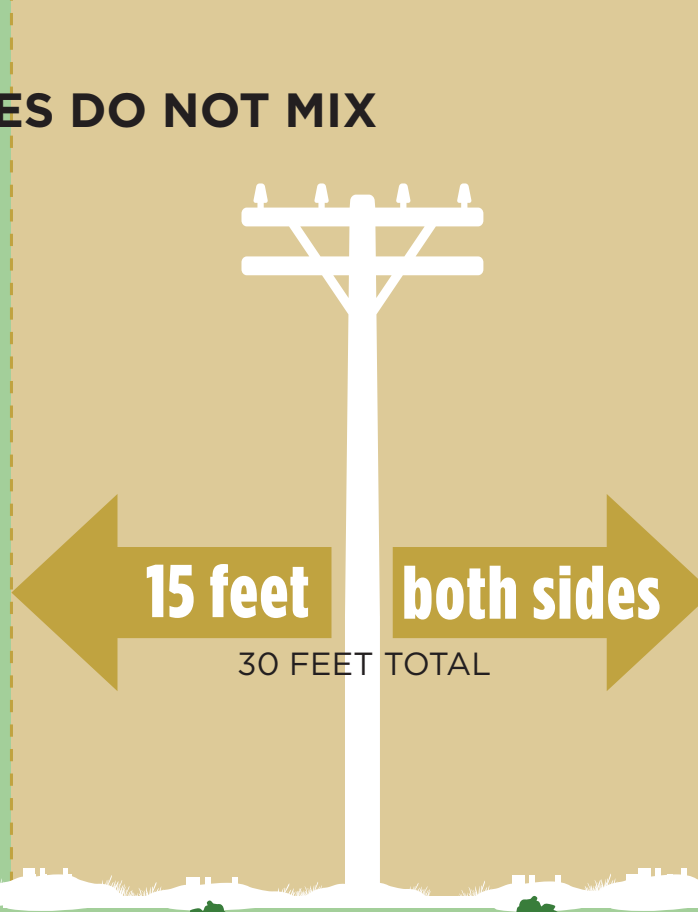
Our crews need room to work quickly and safely to build, repair or replace power lines and equipment. Trees, limbs and other vegetation too close to power lines can pose a threat to those workers and the public, and can cause outages.

Only authorized Bluebonnet employees or contractors are permitted to perform maintenance on or around power lines.

TREES AND POWER LINES DO NOT MIX

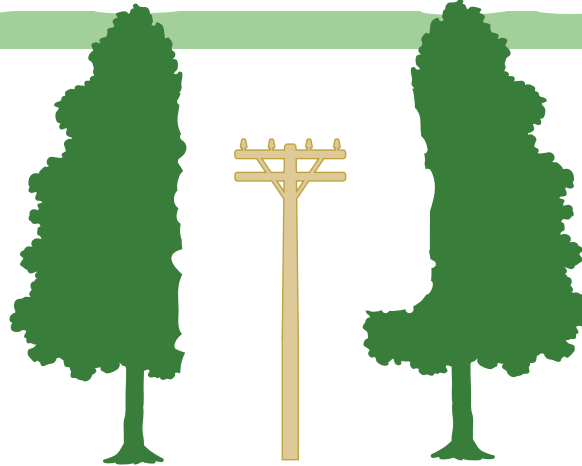
What is a utility easement or right-of-way?

A utility easement, also known as a right-of-way easement, is a written agreement that gives Bluebonnet and our contractors the right to access a landowner's property to construct, operate and maintain the cooperative's electric system facilities. That work includes: checking for trees or other vegetation that pose potential threats to our facilities, pruning or removing those trees or vegetation, or restoring power in an outage. Crews also work in the right-of-way to repair, replace and upgrade Bluebonnet's equipment or system.



Plant the right tree in the right place

Bluebonnet's easements are typically 30 feet wide — 15 feet on either side of the center of the power line — and run the length of power lines. The distance is wider on transmission lines: 30 to 50 feet on either side of the lines. Trees should be planted at least as far away from the easement in feet as they will grow in height. For example, a tree that can grow to 40 feet tall should be planted at least 40 feet away from the edge of our easement, or at least 55 feet from our power lines.



Although cutting from ground to sky is preferred, trees can be trimmed in a side cut or an L-shaped cut to ensure their health and sustainability while keeping branches a safe distance from power lines.

How and why trees are cut

Pruning trees and limbs to keep them at least 15 feet away from power lines reduces the frequency of tree-related outages. Bluebonnet and its contractors adhere to the best management practices when cutting trees within rights-of-way, in order to keep the public and workers safe. When a tree or limb comes into contact with a power line, it may cause an outage.