



## TREE TRIMMING IMPROVES SERVICE FOR ALL

One of the things we love best about our community is the natural beauty that surrounds us. We are fortunate to have so many trees that offer beauty, shade and a habitat for all sorts of birds and other wildlife. We know that you appreciate our community for many of the same reasons.

At Woodruff Electric, we strive to balance maintaining beautiful surroundings and ensuring a reliable power supply by keeping power lines clear in rights of way (ROW).



While we recognize and appreciate the beauty of trees, there are three main benefits to tree trimming in ROW areas. However, before touching on the main reasons, let me explain what a “right of way” is and how it may impact you. A right of way is the land we use to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. Rights of way enable the co-op to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder the power line installation, maintenance, or operation. ROW areas are typically on public lands or located near a business or home. Regardless, Woodruff Electric must be able to maintain the power lines above and below the ROW. The overall goal of our vegetation management program is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our community. Proactive vegetation management benefits co-op members in three tangible ways.

### **Safety**

First and foremost, we care about our members and put their safety and that of our lineworkers above all else. Overgrown vegetation and trees pose a risk to power lines. For example, if trees are touching power lines in our members’ yards, they can pose grave danger to families. If children can access those trees, they can potentially climb into a danger zone. Electricity can arc, or jump, from a power line to a nearby conductor like a tree. A proactive approach also diminishes the chances of fallen branches or trees during severe weather events that make it more complicated and dangerous for lineworkers to restore power.

### **Reliability**

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing power outages. Generally speaking, healthy trees don’t fall on power lines, and clear lines don’t cause problems. Proactive trimming and pruning keep lines clear to promote reliability.

### **Affordability**

As you know, Woodruff Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative, and that means we strive to keep our costs in check to keep our rates affordable. This extends to our approach to vegetation management. If trees grow too close to power lines, the potential for expensive repairs also increases. Effective tree trimming and other vegetation management efforts keep costs down for everyone.

Our community is a special place. We appreciate the beauty trees afford, but we also know our community depends on us to provide reliable energy. Through vegetation management, we are better able to keep the power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid.



Remember to **LOOK UP** when  
operating large equipment.

## UTILITY DISCONNECTS TO RESUME

The Arkansas Public Service Commission has issued an order lifting the moratorium on utility disconnects effective **May 3, 2021**. Members impacted by the pandemic are encouraged to contact our office as soon as possible. Also, contact your local WECC office below to discuss options for postponement of disconnection for medical need, or for the elderly and individuals with disabilities.

**Forrest City (870) 633-2262**

**Augusta (870) 347-2431**

**Barton (870) 572-2800**

**Moro (870) 768-4821**

We encourage you to contact your local community assistance office that provides Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP), if you qualify and funds are available.

### Mid Delta Community Services

Phillips Co. (870) 338-3412; Monroe Co. (870) 734-1236;  
Lee Co. (870) 295-2125 or Prairie Co. (870) 998-2005

### Crowley's Ridge Development Council

Cross Co. (870) 238-2726; St. Francis Co. (870) 630-0193  
or (870) 253-3067; Woodruff Co. (870) 347-1458

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat.

The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause your air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

Source: [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)



## ON TIME. EVERY TIME.

**AUTOMATIC BILL PAY** - It is a convenient service offered by Woodruff Electric and your bank that allows your payment to be made directly from your checking account without you having to write and mail your check. You can save time and money. Give us a call today to get started!



## Generate Safely.

- Never use a portable generator indoors.
- Do not plug generators into standard electrical outlets.
- Use heavy-duty extension cords to connect appliances into the generator.
- Start the generator before connecting appliances.

## Woodruff Electric Cooperative Corporation

P.O. Box 1619  
3201 Hwy 1 North  
Forrest City, Arkansas 72336  
Tel. (870) 633-2262  
Fax: (870) 633-0629

### Office Hours:

8:00am to 5:00pm  
Monday through Friday

### Contact Numbers:

Augusta: (870) 347-2431  
Forrest City: (870) 633-2262  
Moro: (870) 768-4821  
Barton: (870) 572-2800  
[www.woodruffelectric.coop](http://www.woodruffelectric.coop)



**Woodruff Electric offices  
will be closed Monday,  
May 31st to observe  
Memorial Day.**

### OUTAGE REPORTING

Call our automated outage  
reporting number at:

Call 870-633-7100 or  
1-888-559-6400