

PREVENTING SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS



TREE TRIMMING PROGRAM



WHAT TREES DOES MU TRIM?

MU assumes responsibility for trimming trees along the Primary line—which is the line that goes from pole to pole. We do not trim trees around service lines going to a home or business. MU will drop Incoming Service Lines to enable home and business owners to safely trim their trees. To request a Service Line drop or assessment please contact us at 715-387-1195 and ask for Derrek. Requests must be received a minimum of 24 hours before the service is need.

Marshfield Utilities has a robust power line tree trimming program as preventative measure to provide reliable service. The program is managed in accordance with Wisconsin statute PSC 113.0512. (https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/psc/113/v/0512)

Tree limbs and branches that extend into and over power lines are a significant risk to public safety. Especially during high winds and severe weather. Fallen trees and branches can cause extended periods of interruptions and outages.

By cutting back the branches the risk of service interruptions is reduced. The amount of clearance from the service lines is determined by the type of tree. A fast-growing tree will be cut back approximately 12 feet, and seven feet for slow-growing trees.

HOW OFTEN DO TREES NEED TO BE TRIMMED?

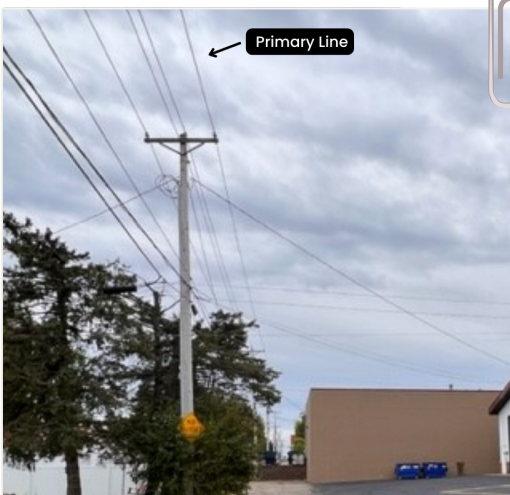
MU and contracted professionals trim trees on a five-year cycle throughout the service area.

WILL A TREE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY BE REMOVED WITHOUT PERMISSION?

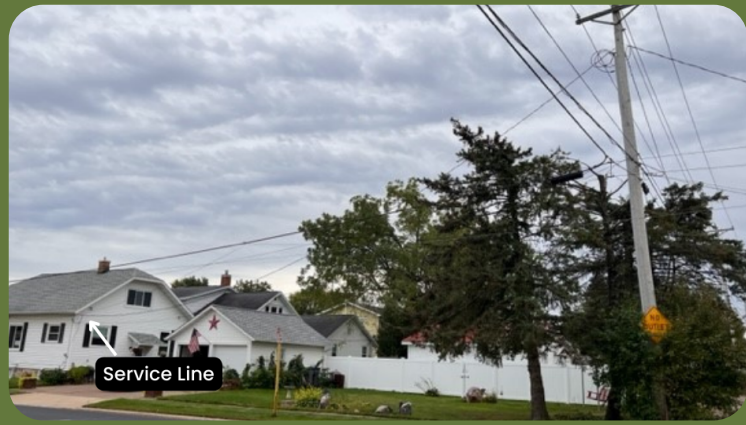
MU will not remove a tree without the property owner's permission. We will make an attempt to contact you at least 24 hours prior to clearing. We will suggest trees be removed if they are diseased, dying, damaged, or likely to be severely deformed by trimming.

Customers may request consideration of removing a tree from their property if it interferes with a high-voltage line at the top of a utility pole and if removing it will eliminate the need for future trimming.

HOW DO I KNOW IF IT IS A PRIMARY ELECTRICAL SERVICE LINE?



The Primary service line is the line that goes from pole to pole.



Service lines run from the pole to the home or business

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST TO CUT MY TREE?

There is no cost to property owners if it is determined that there is a threat to the safety or reliability of the electrical lines. For trees that you would like cut, we recommend you contact a professional tree service provider for an estimate. MU will work directly with that professional if any additional clearance is needed at no additional cost.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WOOD AND BRUSH?

Any wood and brush from trimming trees will be removed and put through a wood chipper. In the event of a storm causing a more than normal amount of fallen branches and/or trees the debris may be left after clearing the power lines.



MU'S UNDER GROUND INITIATIVE:

Moving power lines underground (UG) provides better reliability by protecting the lines from fallen trees, high winds, and critters causing damage. These hazards are essentially eliminated once the lines are underground. The UG power lines are also more affordable to maintain over the long term.



FINDING RELIABLE TREE TRIMMING SERVICE PROVIDER

Hire a trusted and reliable tree trimming service provider when you need trees trimmed or removed from your property. Hiring the wrong person for the job can put you at risk for injury and/or damage claims



Tips for hiring the right person for the job:

- Ask people you know and trust for recommendations
- Look for their digital business presence like a website or social media accounts
- Read the company Google or Yelp reviews
- Contact 2 – 3 companies for estimates and references
- Make sure the company is insured



TIPS ON PLANTING TREES:

When looking to add trees to your landscaping there are several factors to consider from aesthetics and care to location. Before planting, consider how tall the tree will be when fully grown and how wide the tree will grow. This information will help in determining a good location for planting so the tree won't interfere with service lines.

For more tips on selecting the right tree for your landscaping visit [Right Tree in the Right Place \(arborday.org\)](http://RightTreeintheRightPlace.org)