

Why must Duke Energy remove trees?



Trees are part of the natural beauty of the Carolinas, but trees and other vegetation are also one of the leading causes of outages for utilities in the Southeast. At Duke Energy, our priority is to strike a balance between the natural beauty trees provide and our commitment to provide safe, reliable electricity to the millions of homes and businesses that depend on us 24 hours a day.

Our integrated vegetation management program uses various techniques to manage vegetation within and adjacent to transmission rights of way. All vegetation management methods are based on widely accepted standards developed by the tree care industry and approved by the American National Standards Institute for tree care maintenance and operations.

Well maintained rights of way help prevent power outages and allow our vehicles and personnel to access our electrical equipment for operations, maintenance and storm response. By maintaining vegetation around our equipment, we can get our customers' power restored more efficiently and safely.

Duke Energy easements allow the company to keep transmission lines and rights of way clear, to ensure our crews can work safely and our equipment is protected.

- Easements allow us to use a variety of industry tools and methods to manage incompatible vegetation that may interfere with the ability to deliver safe, reliable power.
- Easements allow crews to perform maintenance and restore transmission equipment, and they allow Duke Energy to build new equipment to meet the future energy demands of the state(s).

Sometimes public and private entities plant trees in areas that impede our ability to use these critical assets. Trees planted outside of a right of way can also grow and endanger our equipment. Before planting, visit our rights of way information website at duke-energy.com/safety/right-of-way-management.asp.

More information and contact:

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