


# Electric power lines and trees don't do well together



**T**hat's why Ripley Power and Light Company has an ongoing program to trim tree branches away from power lines. The program's purpose is to insure both electric reliability and safety.

"Tree limbs falling against power lines and utility equipment are a major reason for power outages," said Mike Allmand, President and CEO of Ripley Power and Light.

"Our goal is to work each street in our service area every year so that we can trim trees enough to accommodate growth until we're back again."

## Customers can help, too

"Power and Light customers can help us avoid outages caused by tree and brush overgrowth in three main ways," he said.

**1.** Remove tree limbs that are dead or threaten power lines if you can do so without getting too close to power

lines and the danger of live electricity.

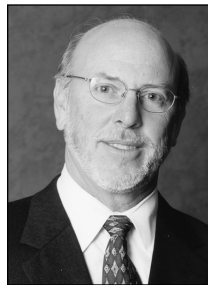
**2.** If you see a potential problem with tree limbs against power lines, give Power and Light a call at 635-2323 or fill out the online form on its website: [www.ripleypower.com](http://www.ripleypower.com). Go to tree trimming under the "Energy Explained" section.

**3.** Avoid planting tall growing trees, such as oak, pine and maple, near power lines.

## Planting trees

Here's a rule of thumb for planting trees.

- Plant trees that grow no more than 30 feet at least 10 feet away from utility poles, street lights and power lines.
- Plant trees growing up to 50 feet at least 35 feet away.
- Plant trees that grow larger than 50 feet at least 45 feet away.



*Mike Allmand  
President and CEO  
Ripley Power and  
Light Company*

