



HOMETOWN PEOPLE, HOMETOWN POWER

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Vegetation Management Practice

Purpose:

The Lansing Board of Water & Light (LBWL) manages growth of trees and other vegetation along its electric power lines to provide line clearances that ensure public safety, the safety of our LBWL electric line crews, and reliable electric power, while demonstrating respect for customers and their property.

Objective:

The LBWL strives to maintain approximately a 5-year vegetation management / maintenance program cycle, in addition to responding to immediate tree concerns that affect our customers' safety and electric service reliability.

Practices:

Maintenance

Vegetation maintenance will be directed and planned by the LBWL's Utility Forester and performed by professionals qualified in the areas of modern vegetation management techniques and practices. Vegetation maintenance crews will follow the LBWL Tree Maintenance & Clearance Standards and will be given latitude to make decisions regarding maintenance that are specific to each situation. This latitude will help maintain environmental responsibility and tree health, while achieving proper electric line clearances.

Notification to customers will be timely informing them when the LBWL will be on their property to perform vegetation maintenance for power line clearance. Written documentation will be provided where appropriate. The distribution of educational material and a description of the scope of trim maintenance work will be emphasized. In addition, there may be situations that arise, such as a tree that has caused an outage or poses an imminent safety hazard, when immediate trim work will be required and performed without customer notification.

When tree maintenance is performed on a customer's property, it is the LBWL's practice to chip and remove all brush and timber smaller than 4" in diameter from the customer's site. Timber larger than 4" in diameter is cut into handling lengths and stacked on the property for the customer's use or disposal.

All brush and timber will be removed from the Rights-of-Way after tree maintenance is performed.

Storm Debris

During severe weather events, trees or tree limbs that bring down LBWL power lines may require removal or trimming to restore electric service. When these situations arise, the LBWL will work quickly to restore electric service to the affected homes and businesses. The problem trees and limbs will be cut so LBWL electric line crews can make the needed repairs.

The LBWL's practice during storm events is to leave the tree debris, brush and wood on the customer's property. This enables our LBWL vegetation maintenance crews to continue on as quickly as possible to the next site that needs emergency attention. Private refuse and tree service companies should be able to assist customers in the removal of tree debris following storms.

The LBWL asks that customers wait until electric line repairs have been completed before yard clean up is attempted. Downed power lines can be hidden under brush and debris. When customers see downed power lines, they should leave the area and call the LBWL immediately at 1.877.295.5001.