



Tree Trimming

Across the Service Territory

Adam Little makes a diagonal cut into a tree near Walkerville.

Trees are an essential part of the environment. They can protect our homes from elements, give us clean air, and make the landscape prettier. However, during storms they can be dangerous to our personal property. They can fall on our homes, cars, and power lines. When a tree or limb falls

on the power lines it disrupts service. This is why the cooperative does year round trimming and removal of trees within the service territory.

Rob Winters, Right-of-way Coordinator, is a certified arborist and oversees the day-to-day operations of the tree



Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner





Gary Harbison runs the brontosaurus to take a tree out near Walkerville.

trimming crews. If you have a tree with a limb near the lines or plan on trimming a tree that is in danger of falling on the lines, we ask that you call us and Rob can come and take a look at it first. The co-op does a majority of our tree trimming during the spring, summer, and after storms.

We base where we trim in the service territory off a few different factors. First, we keep records of where we trim so that we can look back and see what areas have gone the longest without any trimming. Second, servicemen will often report any trees that threaten the lines or areas that need attention. Third, the line reconducting currently going on often requires trees to be trimmed or removed in order to bring the line closer to the road. In all cases, we work closely

with the land owners before any trimming or removal is done.

The co-op has three full-time employees as well as two part-time and contracted crews. Along with Rob Winters and Adam Little, Gary Harbison is our full-time Forestry Machine Operator. As seen in the picture above, he runs our brontosaurus which has a brush-head on the end and can grind up whole trees. The brontosaurus can often get to places where trucks are unable too. Melvin Funk and Eddie Dolen work part-time, often helping the servicemen with trimming limbs back from the lines.

Before any tree removal or trimming near power lines, give us a call at 1-800-468-4732 and we will take a look at it to see if we can assist you or if a private tree service is necessary.



Sign Up For E-mail Billing

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative is now offering e-mail billing to members. If you are interested in signing-up, simply call our office and ask to be enrolled. By request, you may still receive a paper copy as well each month.

Members can still mail their bill in each month with e-mail billing. We ask that you include the account number on the check or include a copy of the e-mail bill. E-mail billing will help us keep costs down and is great for members who pay their bill online.

Paying your bill online is fast, secure, and easy. Paying online helps you avoid late charges by allowing you to pay your bill instantly at anytime. Online bill pay can also show you your usage over the past year.

Signing up for online bill pay only takes minutes. It will ask you for your basic

account information then the bank account you wish to use to pay your bill. While we don't think it will happen, we carry insurance to cover anything going wrong with your checking account. Just follow the instructions from there and after a few clicks you will be ready to go.

The online bill pay process is even simpler. First, login to your account. From there, choose the account that you are wanting to pay. You can choose between your electric, internet, and water accounts. Pay all of them or just a specific one, its up to you. Next, enter the amount you would like to pay and authorize your payment. After you are done, you will see a confirmation page showing the amount paid.

Call us at 1-800-468-4732 to sign-up for e-mail billing. To sign up to pay your bill online, go to www.e-co-op.com.



Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL) contain a small amount of mercury, so we must dispose of them properly. Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative has teamed up with area businesses to offer containers where members can drop off old CFL bulbs. The following locations have containers:

Meehans
Highway 67 South
Roodhouse, IL 62082

Meehans
State Route 267
Greenfield, IL 62044



Brussels Lumber
Main St.
Brussels, IL 62013

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative
2 S. Main
Winchester, IL 62694

Drop off your CFL bulbs and we'll dispose of them properly for you.

Did you know?

Compact Fluorescent Lights use a fraction of the wattage, last much longer, and give off less heat compared to incandescent light bulbs.