

January 2015

Dear Electric Customer:

In the coming weeks, you can expect to see our vegetation management contractors working in your community. When you spot the Trees, Inc., truck working in your area, you can be sure they are helping to further improve the reliability of your electric service by completing preventative maintenance to vegetation in proximity to the overhead electrical conductors.

Because tree interference is the leading cause of outages in our service area, we routinely send experienced tree pruning contractors to trim and redirect tree growth away from power lines. Rest assured that we use proper pruning techniques and follow the utmost care to minimize stress to trees. Additionally, we follow the pruning guidelines recommended by the International Society of Arboriculture and the Tree Line USA program sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation. Orange & Rockland promotes the planting and establishment of only compatible height tree species near overhead electrical conductors to reduce tree/power line contacts and interruptions caused by trees.

Our goal is to keep you out of the dark by decreasing the frequency and duration of power outages in your neighborhood. We do not expect you to experience power loss due to our work. The contractor will work as quickly and efficiently as possible.

All trees requiring pruning will be maintained during this project, and there is no need to respond to this notice. However, if you would like information about no-charge wood chip delivery, or have questions or concerns regarding the specific nature of our work, please call Customer Service at 1-877-434-4100. For your convenience, our Customer Service Representatives handle calls Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

For additional information on Orange & Rockland's vegetation management programs, including information on landscaping for energy efficiency, our Tree Maintenance Guide and other useful information and videos, please visit oru.com and search vegetation management.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Beamish
Manager, Vegetation Management

If a tree grows too fast or if its proximity to power lines is a threat to our electric system, we redirect tree growth away from our equipment to keep electricity flowing in your neighborhood. In some cases, we may need to trim intruding branches along the rights-of-way adjoining your property. In other instances, we may need to remove non-compatible trees to encourage establishment of lower-growing trees near power lines. Whatever work is necessary, we perform tree maintenance along our electric lines to the extent that the pictured minimum distances are created.

