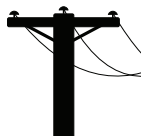


Safety Around Power Lines

Power lines intersect with logging and farming areas across our service territories. The following tips can help you stay safe and avoid a serious safety situation.



Stay Clear of Power Lines

The best way to stay safe is to avoid working under or around powerlines altogether, including:

- loading or unloading equipment
- driving skidders or ATVs near poles and guy wires
- adjusting or securing loads
- operating equipment with a boom in an elevated position

Storage of items under power lines or within rights-of-way is not allowed, even temporarily, including:

- parking vehicles
- parking or storing equipment
- piling wood or brush
- storing or burning slash



Look Up!

When working, look for overhead power lines. Using signs at ground level to remind workers of overhead lines can save a life.



Trees, Limbs & Downed Power Lines

Trees, limbs, and equipment can all conduct electricity. You also cannot tell if a line is energized simply by looking at it.

If a tree or limb is in contact with a power line, do not remove the tree or limb under any circumstance, including by the use of mechanized equipment.

Do not attempt to retrieve a pinched chainsaw when a tree or limb is in contact with a powerline.

Never touch, approach, or drive over a downed wire. Just because the power line is not jumping, arcing, buzzing does not mean it is safe to touch.



Contact Emera Maine

If a felled tree, limbs, or equipment make contact with any power line, stop work and keep a safe distance.

Contact Emera Maine immediately and keep all workers at a safe distance until we can evaluate the damage and address any electrical hazards.

Should an emergency situation occur, such as someone trapped in a vehicle due to downed power lines or a fire, call emergency services before calling the power company.

Emera Maine Customer Contact Center

Monday to Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM
1-855-EMERA-11 (1-855-363-7211) • 207-973-2000
custserv@emeramaine.com
PO Box 932, Bangor, ME 04402-0932



Power Safety Regulations

OSHA Regulations

OSHA 1910.333 General Electrical

1910.333(c)(3)(iii)(A) Any vehicle or mechanical equipment capable of having parts of its structure elevated near energized overhead lines shall be operated so that a clearance of 10 ft. (305 cm) is maintained. If the voltage is higher than 50kv, the clearance shall be increased 4 in. (10cm) over that voltage.

OSHA 1910.266 Logging Standards

1910.266(h)(1)(i) Trees shall not be felled in a manner that may create a hazard for an employee, such as but not limited to, striking a rope, cable, power line, or machine.

OSHA 1926.1408 Power line safety (up to 350kv)-equipment operations

1926.1408(a)(2) Determine if any part of the equipment, load line or load (including rigging and lifting accessories), if operated up to the equipment's maximum working radius in the work zone, could get closer than 20 feet to a power line. If so, the employer must meet the requirements in Option (1), Option (2), or Option (3) of this section, as follows:

1926.1408(a)(2)(i) Option (1) - Deenergize and ground. Confirm from the utility owner/operator that the power line has been deenergized and visibly grounded at the worksite.

1926.1408(a)(2)(ii) Option (2) - 20 foot clearance. Ensure that no part of the equipment, load line, or load (including rigging and lifting accessories), gets closer than 20 feet to the power line by implementing the measures specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

1926.1408(a)(2)(iii) Option (3) - Table A clearance.

The Maine Overhead High Voltage Safety Act Title 35-A Part 1, Chapter 7A

This Act details State of Maine rules regarding work around overhead power lines in excess of 600 Volts.

A person may not individually or through an agent or as an agent or employee perform any work or activity on any land, building, highway or other premises that may cause:

- A person to be placed within 10 feet of an overhead high-voltage line; or
- A tool or material used by a person to be brought within 10 feet of an overhead high-voltage line.

When work is necessary in closer proximity than 10 feet, persons responsible for the work must notify Emera Maine in advance so that precautionary safety arrangements can be made.

- Notification must be at least 72 hours in advance of work or activity except in emergencies
- Any Emera Maine costs associated with the precautionary safety arrangements will be borne by the persons requesting said arrangements.

Persons that cause, permit or allow work in violation of this Act are liable for all damages to facilities, injuries to persons and all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred by Emera Maine and 3rd parties as a result of any contact with an overhead high voltage line. Emera Maine will bill for our material and labor costs.

There are also financial penalties associated with violation of this Act.

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