



CO-OPS COMMIT

Co-op Month 2017
#coopmonth

Keep safety in mind when picking the perfect hunting spot this season. Only install stands and climb trees well away from power lines.

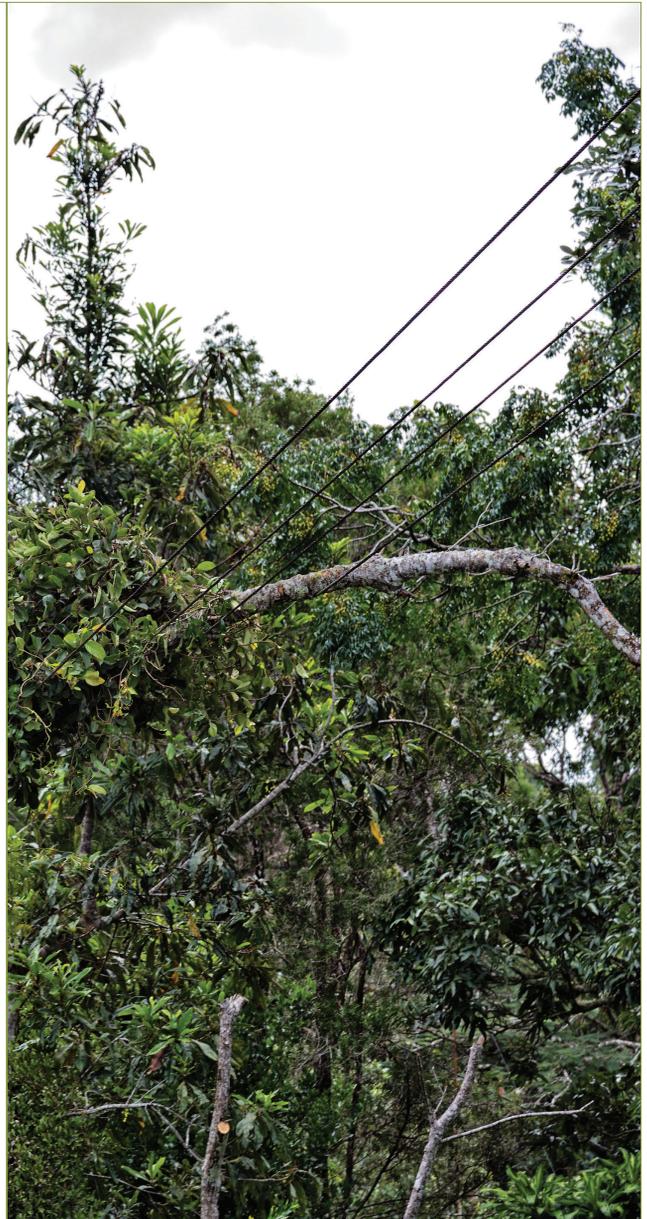
For your safety, stay clear of power lines, especially if they are down

Downed power lines can look relatively harmless, but don't be fooled. They likely carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or possibly death.

These tips can help you stay safe around downed lines:

- If you see a downed power line, move away from the line and anything touching it.
- The proper way to move away from the line is to shuffle with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. This will minimize the potential for a strong electric shock. Electricity wants to move from a high voltage zone to a low voltage one — and it could do that through you.
- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. You could become the next victim. Call 911 instead.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything in contact with the line by using another object, such as a broom. Even normally non-conductive materials like wood or cloth, if slightly wet, can conduct electricity and electrocute you.
- Be careful not to put your feet near water where a downed power line is located.
- Do not drive over downed lines.

Chris Waltrip, safety and training coordinator, said members should avoid power lines even if they aren't down. For example, never try to cut a tree that is touching or could touch the lines. You could be electrocuted. Contact NAEC, so it can be removed safely.



Please contact NAEC before working within 10 feet of power lines

Unfortunately, people often see the cleared expanse of the cooperative's right-of-way as an ideal location to install a billboard, operate large equipment or build a structure.

North Arkansas Electric Cooperative asks that anyone who wants to work within 10 feet of the overhead energized lines or conductors contact the cooperative before any work begins.

“We can go to the site and see if it is safe for you to work in that area,” said Chris Waltrip, NAEC safety and training coordinator. “If we determine it is not, we can take steps, such as adding cover to lines, to help ensure your safety.”

Anyone wanting to work near lines may contact the co-op from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 870-895-3221 or at a co-op office.