

Electrical and Power Line Safety Tips

Power Lines

- Never climb into trees where power lines run through the limbs.
- Stay clear of overhead and exposed underground electrical lines at all times. Never attempt to repair lines yourself.
- Don't get near electrical lines when making home improvements such as roofing, painting or replacing siding. Contact us if you need to perform any work around these lines.
- Trees conduct electricity; avoid contact with them if they are making contact with any part of the electrical distribution system. Call Sawnee EMC if you have trees touching lines and equipment at your home.
- Never attempt to remove kites, tree limbs or other objects from power lines. Contact us to ensure safe removal.
- If you are going to be working within 10 feet of any overhead electrical lines, contact the Utilities Protection Center Inc. at 811 or [online](#) and give them your name and address. Sawnee EMC will be notified to assess the needs for your safety.
- Don't attach signs or other items to utility poles, as it poses a danger to our lineworkers.

Underground Electrical Transformers

- Underground transformers are not toys. Never allow children to play on them. If you notice an underground enclosure of any type being damaged, moved or leaking oil, contact Sawnee EMC immediately.
- Never open the lid or doors of any underground enclosure. If the lid is open, or the lock removed or damaged, contact Sawnee EMC.
- Electrical lines terminate in the transformers, so our linemen need clear access to perform maintenance. Never plant shrubs or flowers around the transformer. Maintain 10 feet of clearance from the front of the transformer and one to three feet on all other sides to allow Sawnee EMC access.
- Call before you dig. If you have underground electrical lines feeding your home, contact the Utilities Protection Center, Inc. at 811 or [online](#) and give them your name, address and area location where the excavation will take place. Your underground lines will be marked for your protection against shock or even death.

Substation Safety

- An electrical substation converts electricity to a lower voltage so it can be safely routed and delivered to your home. Because high-voltage power runs through substation equipment, please avoid substation areas and the fences that surround them.
- Never release metallic balloons near substations. If they get caught in the equipment or lines, they can cause power outages.
- Never fly kites or drones near electrical substations. If you do and the kite or drone gets caught inside the fence, let us retrieve it for you.
- Teach youngsters to stay away from electrical substation fences. The area is dangerous, and these fences are NOT for climbing.
- If you ever have any concerns about a substation, please contact us immediately.