

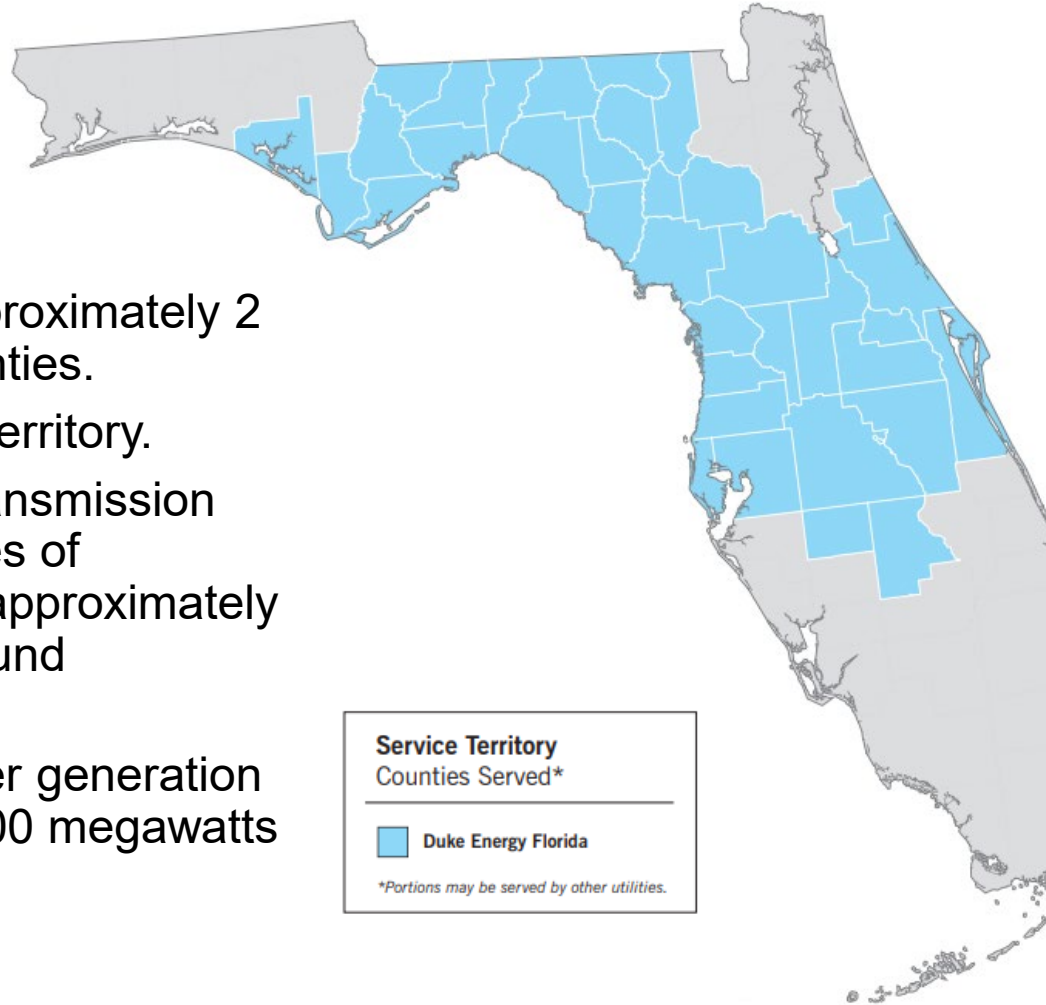


Duke Energy Florida

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Duke Energy Florida

- Duke Energy Florida serves approximately 2 million customers within 35 counties.
- 13,000 square miles of service territory.
- Approximately 5,200 miles of transmission lines, approximately 18,000 miles of overhead distribution lines and approximately 14,000 circuit miles of underground distribution cable.
- We maintain more than 30 power generation sites capable of producing 12,000 megawatts of electricity.



Distribution Outage Minutes

Top Causes

Weather

- 125 million minutes

Vegetation

- 70.7 million minutes

**By 2023 outage minutes*



Improving Reliability

- In 2023, the company had its best reliability performance in more than a decade. Between 2018 and 2023, the company reduced the average length of a customer outage by 27%.
- More than 70% of Duke Energy Florida customers now benefit from smart, self-healing technologies (75% in Pinellas County).
- Approximately 50% of Pinellas County primary power lines are underground.
- In 2023, teams completed more than 4,000 miles of maintenance trimming on Duke Energy Florida's distribution lines and 600 miles of planned work on the transmission side.
- Over the past three year, more than 40,000 poles have been hardened through the Storm Protection Plan.
- The company is expanding capacity of the electric grid by building new substations, expanding existing substations and installing new or larger circuits to provide reliable service in the growing state. Duke Energy has completed optimization of eight substations, with another 38 in flight in Florida.



Vegetation Management Highlights



- Federal regulations require that our highest voltage transmission lines remain reliable and free from interference by trees and other vegetation at all times. A vegetation-related outage on these lines could result in the utility being fined up to \$1 million per day.
- Trimming methods are based on widely accepted standards developed by the tree care industry and approved by the American National Standards Institute for tree care maintenance and operations.
- Duke Energy has International Society of Arboriculture certified arborists on staff to ensure proper pruning practices are adhered to by all hired Vegetation Management professionals.
- Each tree is different and must be considered individually. However, trees located within the rights of way of high-voltage transmission lines are generally removed instead of pruned.
- Plants, shrubs and trees that are of a species that will not exceed 15 feet in height at maturity will typically not be removed. Each removal can be unique depending on easements or agreements.

Vegetation Management Program

Distribution Vegetation Management

Maintenance prioritized by vegetation-caused outages, time since last prune and customer satisfaction

- Feeder (backbone): 3-year average cycle
- Laterals: 5-year average cycle
- Maintenance, customer request, project driven

Transmission Vegetation Management

Determined by evidence-based threats, conditions and system data

- Prioritized and scheduled using data identified through patrols, inspections and assessments, while considering factors like the date of previous work activities and outage impact
- Condition-based approach is used to target vegetation re-growth and support minimum safe worker distances



Planned Vegetation Management Notifications

Distribution

- Digital communication
- Door-to-door
- Postcards
- Interactive Map

Transmission

- Door hangers
- Door to door
- In-person notification
- Letters to property owner

DUKE ENERGY.
Transmission – Public Engagement
FL 142 | 299 1st Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

We'll be working on your area

Duke Energy is working to provide you with affordable energy. The project is now in progress and land clearing activities are underway. Workers have safety protocols in place to complete this part of the project as quickly as possible. At all times, the safety of you and your family is our top priority. Please stay clear of work areas and the equipment and vehicles while they are on-site and make sure children know to stay clear as well. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete this important work to serve your current and future energy needs. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Power Line Clearance to Begin Soon

Duke Energy is committed to providing reliable electricity to more than 10 million customers by regularly inspecting, maintaining and clearing lines and vegetation along our power lines. Substantive work by the Duke Energy crew clearing techniques in accordance with the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) and the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).

Any scheduled vegetation on your property and determined the following work is needed:

- Some trees power lines on your property require pruning. In landscaped areas, debris will be cleaned up and disposed of by Duke Energy. In non-landscaped areas, debris may be left on-site for landscaping.
- Small trees and vegetation growing in the right of way may be cut down. In landscaped areas, debris will be cleaned up and disposed of by Duke Energy. In non-landscaped areas, debris may be left on-site for landscaping.
- Certain trees on your property present a reliability risk and have been flagged to be cut down. Please contact us at the number below for more information.
- The vegetation management is required on your property at this time, but we may need to access your property to complete work on adjacent areas.
- We cannot provide a complete work on your property today and will return on the next scheduled working day.

Please contact us about:

- Understanding gates
- Blocking vehicles
- Detouring paths
- Affecting animals

Contact:

Company: _____ Employee Name: _____
Phone Number: _____ Title: _____
Notes: _____

Please see website for additional information on this clearance.

How will the trees be removed?

To protect the health of the tree, we employ manual and directional pruning methods performed by tree care professionals. The basic for proper pruning is that each limb removed from a tree is removed either where it joins another limb or at the branch.

Pruning, due to their growth habit, cannot be directionally pruned away from power lines. If needed directly under or less than 10 feet from the health, contact the power lines, the power will often need to be removed to ensure it does not cause a power outage to the future.

Examples of trimming methods:

1" trimming Side trimming 12" trimming

Before After Before After Before After

Plan before you plant.

Before you plant a tree, plant an shrub, please make sure the location is not in the way of overhead power lines and away from underground power lines and other utilities. Call 811 before you dig.

When choosing a tree or shrub for your yard, make sure it has roots to grow.

Small Tree Size: 10-15 feet tall, 1-2 inches in diameter at base. These trees are safe for most yards and are easy to maintain. They are safe for most yards and are easy to maintain.

Large Tree Size: 20-30 feet tall, 3-4 inches in diameter at base. These trees are safe for most yards and are easy to maintain. They are safe for most yards and are easy to maintain.

Very Large Tree Size: 40-50 feet tall, 6-8 inches in diameter at base. These trees are safe for most yards and are easy to maintain. They are safe for most yards and are easy to maintain.

For additional information, please visit: dukeenergy.com/TSN

Escané para
ver en español



Notice of Vegetation Management System Hardening:

Date: _____

At Duke Energy, our commitment to providing reliable electricity means that we inspect, maintain and clear trees and vegetation along and next to our power lines. In addition to regular maintenance, we inspect, identify and complete vegetation work on specific power lines ahead of Florida's storm season. Vegetation management system hardening improves system reliability and better prepares the grid for the strains of tropical storm activity. Trained arborists who work for Duke Energy look for palms and other fast-growing trees near our equipment, as well as overhanging limbs and structurally unsound trees that pose a threat to the reliability of the grid.

During an assessment of vegetation on your property, we determined that:

- ☐ Certain tree(s) on your property present a reliability risk and have been flagged to be cut down with your consent. Contact us at the number below for more information.
- ☐ Vegetation growing in close proximity to and/or overhanging the power lines has been identified as a reliability risk and requires pruning. This will be worked into our schedule within the coming months. In landscaped areas, debris will be cleaned up and disposed of by Duke Energy.

☐ Other: _____

If you have questions or concerns, please contact
(Si usted tiene preguntas, por favor llame):



Right Tree Right Place

- The Arbor Day Foundation has recognized Duke Energy Florida for its tree care practices by naming the company a “Tree Line USA” utility for the 18th year in a row.
- Since 2017, the company has given away more than 13,000 trees to help customers conserve energy and maximize environmental benefits through strategic tree planting.
- Right Tree Right Place education to avoid incompatible trees.
- Please visit Duke Energy’s [Right Tree Right Place website](https://www.duke-energy.com/community/trees-and-rights-of-way/how-we-manage-trees/right-tree-right-place).



Duke Energy Florida's tree care practices pr
18th consecutive year of national recognitio

April 19, 2024

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Planting a tree? Make sure to plant it far enough from power lines and remember to call 811 before you dig! <https://www.duke-energy.com/community/trees-and-rights-of-way/how-we-manage-trees/right-tree-right-place>



Note: Applicable to distribution only – not transmission.

Plant the right tree in the right place

Plant taller trees away from overhead distribution utility lines

Plant deciduous trees on the south-facing side of your home in the fall to allow warmth from the sun in the winter and to block sunlight to cool your home in the summer.



Tall trees:
mature at a height
greater than 50 feet

Medium trees:
mature at a height between
16 feet and 40 feet

Small trees:
mature at a height of
15 feet or less

Opportunities and Next Steps



Evaluating communications with customers, counties and municipalities.

Distribution Vegetation Management has not paused and continues in Pinellas County.

Transmission Vegetation Management

- Paused in March 2024.
- Essential need to resume for customer reliability.
- Continue to communicate with customers.
- If the property owner does not object to the tree removal, crews will remove the tree. If the property owner objects to the proposed removal, Duke Energy Florida will consider alternative mitigation, such as trimming, with the intent of removal when the vegetation is re-identified as a threat.

