

Tree Trimming by Maurer Progresses Across ECI REC Service Territory

Tree trimming is vitally important to reliable electric service. At the time of publication, Maurer Tree Service's four-person crew had completed tree trimming in about one-half of the designated area around the Fairbank Substation, and was moving to the southwest of the substation. We anticipate the completion of this section sometime in May. Then, Maurer Tree Service will be moving to the Karr Substation area near Vinton.

"We realize that tree trimming can be a sensitive issue," said Steve Marlow, manager of operations and engineering. "We would like to thank our member-consumers for their continued cooperation in our efforts to cut back vegetation that may be encroaching on the distribution system, thus reducing reliability issues that may affect electrical service."

"In order to ensure we don't have to trim a tree a member has planted, we ask that our members adhere to some simple tree-planting guidelines," said Steve.

Planting Reminders

1. Consider mature height of trees.
2. Don't plant trees near underground utilities.
3. Keep areas around electric meters, transformers, and other equipment free of vegetation.
4. Call Iowa One Call 48 hours before digging.



Community Connected

Youth Tour Winners Announced

Two juniors from area high schools have been selected to represent ECI REC at the 2010 Youth Tour of Washington, D.C., in June.



Connor Roth (top left), daughter of Joe and Nancy Roth of the Luzerne area, is active in St. Michael's church youth group. At Belle Plaine High School, Connor enjoys track, band and music, the Pep Club, and has been named student of the month several times. She also participates in the annual service-learning day.



Nicole Thompson (bottom left) is active in volleyball, softball, show choir, and musicals and plays, and the Lutheran Youth Organization. She was named president of her class at Vinton/Shellsburg High School this year. Nicole is the daughter of Jeff and Julie Barns from the Palo area.



2010 Independence Home Show

John Tegler, member services technician, and Frank Weber, member services director, represented ECI REC at Independence's recent home show. The more than 320 attendees were able to take advantage of the resources at the ECI REC booth.

"Both ECI member-consumers and visitors were full of questions about energy efficiency," said John. "Many were interested in geothermal systems, model home qualifications, and our new 2010 energy-efficiency programs."

During the event, ECI REC awarded a meter to Cindy Walton of Independence. Denny Bowers, also of Independence, won a heated mug. Thirty exhibitors had a presence at this year's show.