



# PG&E is Your Partner in Safety.

**Drought and bark beetles have killed tens of millions of trees in California. Despite winter rainfall in 2016, drought conditions continue across the state. Our goal is to protect life and property from wildfires and also prevent electrical power outages. For more information visit: [pge.com/treesanddrought](http://pge.com/treesanddrought)**

## PG&E IS:

- Working year-round to reduce wildfire risk
- Monitoring and managing 55 million trees on 2 million properties within our 70,000 square mile service area
- Continuing annual routine inspections to remove hazard trees near our 134,000 miles of overhead power lines
- Conducting additional supplemental inspections in high fire-danger areas of trees along power lines to identify and remove dead and dying hazardous trees
- Using innovative inspection technology and data analytics to detect hazardous trees near power lines
- Participating in Governor Brown's Tree Mortality Task Force, along with state and federal agencies, local governments, other utilities and various stakeholders, to coordinate emergency protective actions and monitor ongoing conditions to address the vast tree mortality
- Providing funding for CAL FIRE and local Fire Safe Councils to continue preventive fire safety work in local communities
- Promoting CAL FIRE's public safety campaigns to increase public awareness and education on vital fire safety and bark beetle infestation

## MAKE SAFETY YOUR TOP PRIORITY

**Recognize a tree in trouble, and create and keep Defensible Space around your home. Clearing for Defensible Space can be dangerous if you have high-voltage power lines on or near your property. Take these steps to stay safe:**

**Report dead or dying trees near power lines to PG&E at 1-800-743-5000.**

Signs that a tree is in trouble include bare branches, brown leaves or needles, a cracked or leaning trunk, and trails of sawdust at the base of the tree. Stay away from hazard trees for safety.

**Request a free, temporary service disconnect at 1-800-743-5000.** If you notice tension on the electric service drop line to your home or business, request a short-term service disconnection to prune without risk of electrical contact.

**Request free, 'make safe' service assistance at 1-800-743-5000.** PG&E may be able to assist with your tree-pruning needs by creating a safe distance between trees and power lines so that you can hire your own contractor to perform work.

**Mind the Lines.** Anytime you propose removing or pruning a tree near power lines, keep your body and all equipment at least 10 feet away. This is a CAL OSHA requirement. Only personnel with special training can work within 10 feet of power lines. Also, maintain safe distances from service drops and secondary wires servicing your home.

**Debris removal.** For disposal of woody debris, we recommend contacting your local Fire Safe Council or other local community resources. Another option is to use as firewood or—in rural areas—lop and scatter according to forest practice rules.

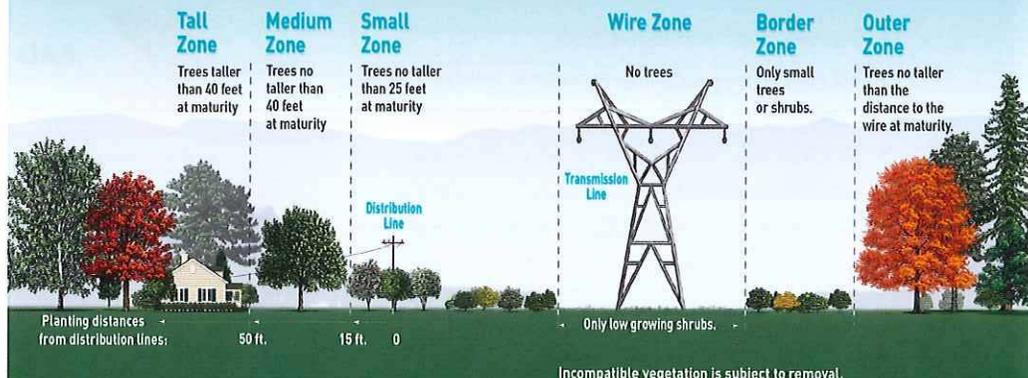


## PLAN BEFORE YOU PLANT

**Carefully select trees and Call Before You Dig.**

## Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place.

If you plan to plant a new tree near or under electric lines, follow these clearance guidelines:



For inquiries, please call 1-800-743-5000.

**REMOVE DEAD TREES. REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK.**



**PrepareforBarkBeetle.org**

# REDUCE YOUR WILDFIRE RISK.

## Tree Mortality—Drought and Bark Beetles What Property Owners Need to Know



**Drought and bark beetles are a deadly combination—already killing over 29 million trees in California’s forests in 2015 alone. The numbers continue to rise. More dead trees mean more fuel for wildfire. Here’s what you can do seasonally to reduce your risk of wildfire and promote tree health:**



### WINTER

- Check property for dead or bark beetle-infested trees.
- Weather permitting, now is the best time to remove those trees and dense undergrowth.
- Trim up trees for vertical clearance as part of your home’s Defensible Space. If not feasible in winter, then plan now to do so when weather permits.
- If you’re planting trees this spring, plan ahead now and plant locally native trees.



### SPRING

- Prepare Defensible Space.
- Remove dead and bark beetle-infested trees.
- Bark beetles are most active now and in summer—be careful not to damage remaining trees as this may attract beetles.
- If possible, remove freshly cut wood. Otherwise, cover, lop or chip infested wood—and do not place near healthy trees unless fully dry.
- Following an extended period of little to no rain, sparingly water high-value trees. Use best watering practices.
- Now is the time to plant new trees, as long as irrigation is available.



### SUMMER

- Remove dead and dying trees.
- Follow spring guidelines as beetles are very active in summer as well.
- Be especially careful with power tools—one spark can start a wildfire.
- If planting trees in fall, plan ahead now and plant locally native trees.



### FALL

- If planting trees, wait until the weather cools and fall rains have increased soil moisture.
- Now is one of the best times to remove dead and dying trees, and dense undergrowth.
- Water high-value trees only if significantly less than average rainfall this season; otherwise, do not water.

**Act now to protect your family, home and property.**

For more information on tree mortality, drought, bark beetles and reducing wildfire risk, visit:



**PrepareforBarkBeetle.org**