

## How will my trees look after PG&E works on them?

### AUDIO DESCRIPTION

How will my trees look after PG&E works on them?

Host Neda Iranpour, standing outside and wearing a PG & E hard hat and vest introduces the segment about tree pruning and narrates throughout.

Samples of well-pruned, full trees are shown, followed by images of devastating wild fires and power outages.

Info graphic images show samples of v-shaped or l-shaped pruning or one sided pruning

Victor Visintin, arborist, talks to camera about pruning.

Real life samples of tree pruning are seen, along with workers in a bucket truck doing work. The "right tree right place" brochure with images of tree samples and planting guidelines is shown.

First Alfonso Robles, arborist, and then Victor talk to the camera about the work they do and are shown at work pruning and clearing trees.

### TRANSCRIPT

Let's be honest, tree pruning can be a little bit controversial. Everyone has an opinion on how a tree should be pruned, and how it should ultimately look. Most people's idea of a beautifully pruned tree looks something like this, or this, or this. But if you knew a tree near power lines could start a fire, cause an outage, or hurt someone in your neighborhood, you might want that tree pruned a little differently. Directing tree growth safely away from high voltage power lines may require reshaping the tree into a V or an L, or pruning just one side of the tree. This is known as directional pruning.

- Well the work we do may look a little different than what people expect or even want, but we're doing it the right way, and with people's safety in mind.

- Directional pruning leaves a very different look than the manicured profile of most landscape and ornamental trees. But that does not mean a poor job was performed. Our directional pruning methods align with best management practices and national standards to promote tree health. Directional pruning results in a minimal number of required cuts and directs the growth away, to insure clearance from the line.

Sometimes we prune beyond the minimum required clearance to allow for growth, wind sway and other factors. We also may cut larger clearances for fast growing species like eucalyptus or redwoods. We'd rather people plant these and other tall trees far from power lines in the first place. Our Right Tree Right Place program provides customers guidance on planting trees and landscaping to avoid conflicts with power lines. This is a great program. In addition to pruning upper tree limbs and branches away from power lines, we may clear lower branches and other vegetation to create firebreaks at the base of utility poles and towers. State law requires us to do this work in areas of high fire danger.

- Honestly when we finish with your trees, they may not always look the way you want them to, but you can rest assured knowing that they're pruned according to the best management practices for trees near power lines.
- We prune trees so they're a safe distance away from power lines, keeping you, your family and your neighborhood safe. It's a trade-off most people are willing to make once they understand.
- If you have questions about trees near power lines, please call us anytime at 1-800-PGE-5000. Remember, it's all about keeping you safe and keeping the lights on. This message brought to you by Pacific Gas and Electric Company.