FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When is this pole clearing work performed?
Pole Clearing and Vegetation Control crews typically arrive after an inspector surveys the area. The inspector will talk to the resident(s) in person or leave a door-hanger notice. In some cases, the clearing work will be performed at the time of inspection if we are able to make contact with the property owner.

How often are areas patrolled for vegetation control work?
The Vegetation Management Department regularly patrols every mile of electrical lines in the State Responsibility Areas. The inspection occurs every year for poles and transmission towers that support non-exempt equipment. These locations require creating a firebreak at the base of the poles and structures during fire season. The firebreak complies with California Public Resources Code 4292.

How can I prepare for Pole Clearing and Vegetation Control work?
Use the following guidelines to prepare for Pole Clearing and Vegetation Control work:
• Remove vehicles and other personal property from the pole-clearing area.
• Unlock your gate when you know vegetation crews are in the area.
• Ensure that animals are leashed or secured.
• Do not place flammable materials, such as lawn clippings or brush within the pole clearing area.
This brochure describes PG&E’s Pole Clearing and Vegetation Control work to help reduce the threat of wildfire.

**PG&E’S POLE CLEARING AND VEGETATION CONTROL PROGRAM**

PG&E’s most important responsibility is the safety of our customers and the communities we serve.

As part of this responsibility, we are removing all flammable material, brush, limbs and foliage around electric power poles and towers through our Pole Clearing and Vegetation Control program in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs). SRAs are areas where CAL FIRE is the primary response agency for fire suppression and prevention. This work is part of PG&E’s ongoing, comprehensive vegetation management work and is required by California Public Resources Code (PRC) 4292 on lines with voltages of 750 volts or higher, such as primary and secondary distribution lines.

**This important safety work includes:**

- Removing all flammable material and vegetation in a 10-foot radius around the base of the pole or tower
- Removing brush, limbs and foliage up to eight feet above the ground
- Removing all dead, dying, diseased or dried vegetation from eight feet above the ground to the top of the power lines

To learn more about PG&E’s vegetation management work, please visit pge.com/trees, email wildfiresafety@pge.com or call 1-800-743-5000.

**Program Exemptions**

Pole Clearing work is not required in the following areas, according to California Code of Regulation (CCR) 1255:

- Fields planted to row crops
- Plowed or cultivated fields
- Producing vineyards that are plowed or cultivated
- Fields in nonflammable summer fallow
- Irrigated pasture land
- Orchards of fruit, nut or citrus tree that are plowed or cultivated
- Christmas tree farms that are plowed or cultivated
- Swamp, marsh or bog land
- Vegetation less than 12 inches in height, fire resistant and planted to prevent soil erosion

PRC 4292 requires the following in a 10-foot radius around the pole:

- The removal of dead, diseased and dying limbs and foliage from eight feet up the pole to the top of the power lines.
- The removal of all flammable material eight feet up the pole from the ground.