



AUGUST 2025

# CO-OP CURRENT



PLUG INTO SAFETY

CREATE A SAFETY PLAN

*before planting a tree*

Trees can be beautiful additions to a yard, but planting one safely can be tricky. While you may think of the potential dangers to yourself when planting a tree, there are also ways you can harm nearby power lines and other trees. Trees growing too close to electrical lines can cause momentary short circuits and flickering lights. When it storms, tree limbs that are too close to power lines can knock them out and threaten your safety.

### LOOK FOR POTENTIAL DANGERS

When planting a tree, consider potential safety issues associated with overhead and underground utility lines. Overhead utility lines are easy to see but can be extremely dangerous. Underground utility lines can be tricky to see and could be buried very close to the ground's surface.

That's why SCI REMC wants to remind you to contact the Indiana 811 call center. This free service identifies the approximate location of buried lines on your property and prevents something bad from happening to yourself, your property, or your neighborhood.

Never assume the utility lines are buried deeper than you plan to dig. Take the time to reach out to the Indiana 811 call center at least a few working days before you start planting.

### CONSIDER THE BEST LOCATION

Once you know where you can plant to avoid underground utilities, consider the best locations that are a safe distance away from overhead lines. For instance, if you're planting a small tree that won't grow larger than 25 feet tall, planting it 25 feet away from power lines should be safe. Larger trees must be planted farther from power lines.

Keeping trees away from these utility lines not only keeps you safe, but it also keeps the trees safe. Trees planted too close to underground lines can suffer root damage, and trees planted too close to overhead lines need regular pruning.

SCI REMC works hard to provide reliable electric service. You can help by following these simple guidelines when managing the trees on your property. Being aware of these dangers and how to avoid them can keep you, your home, and the trees safe.



**Plan ahead:** Know where you'll dig before contacting 811.

**Contact Indiana 811:** Call or submit a request online.

**Wait for markings:** Contact at least two business days before digging so utilities can mark underground lines.

**Check marks & positive response:** After two days, verify all utilities have marked their lines using Indiana 811's system. Color codes include:

- Red:** Electric
- Yellow:** Gas, oil, or steam
- Orange:** Communications
- Blue:** Water
- Green:** Sewer
- Purple:** Reclaimed water
- White:** Proposed excavation

# UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

AND BE NOTIFIED ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS!

At SCI REMC, we believe it's important that all members stay informed - especially when something significant is happening within the cooperative. That's why keeping your contact information up to date is so important. It ensures you receive timely, accurate communication directly from us.

Here are some key reasons we may need your current contact information:

- Annual Meeting details
- Director elections
- Energy programs
- Maintenance notices
- Cooperative updates

*Keeping your contact info current helps us serve you better and ensures you never miss out on important updates.*



CONTACT

765.342.3344

[askus@sciremc.com](mailto:askus@sciremc.com)

# SAVE THE DATE

## Tune in to SCI REMC's virtual Annual Meeting.

*Sept. 27, 2025, at 9:45 a.m.*



[SCIREMC.COM/ANNUALMEETING](https://sciremc.com/annualmeeting)



SUBMIT QUESTIONS TO [ANNUALMEETING@SCIREMC.COM](mailto:ANNUALMEETING@SCIREMC.COM)

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**SCI REMC**