

TVPPA - Strategic Utility Right-of-Way Management classes

After a year of planning and development, the Strategic Utility Right-of-Way Management class is ready to be delivered in three locations in Tennessee.

TVPPA received notification in January 2011 that a 50/50-match funding grant from the USDA Forest Service and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division would be awarded for the training program. Subject matter experts from TVPPA-member systems and industry experts formed an advisory team to assist in the development of the curriculum.

Training topics include a review of tree biology and pruning techniques as well as the successful incorporation of integrated vegetation management practices where applicable. Program development will be addressed methodically, establishing the need for a systematic approach, reviewing how to set goals and objectives, providing examples to develop supporting operational policies and procedures, and surveying tools to help measure program success.

Please see the attached course outline for a full description.

The training will be offered from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. local time at the following locations:

February 21 – EPB, Chattanooga, TN

February 22 – Duck River EMC, Shelbyville, TN

February 23 – Jackson, TN Energy Authority Training Center

Who Should Attend? The training is designed for municipal and cooperative electric utility CEOs, utility managers, construction managers, supervisors, public relations personnel and staff responsible for advocacy, oversight and implementation of right-of-way programs.

Cost per student is \$275. *Please note this is a reduced cost due to the grant funding received.*

Registration is available online via the Public Power Academy at www.tvppa.com.

If you have any questions about this or any other TVPPA class, contact E&T Services at 423.648.2464 or training@tvppa.com.

Thanks,
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TVPPA

Strategic Utility Right-of-Way Management

Course Outline

No single industry has the ability to affect the urban forest and vegetation management more than the local power provider. Understanding the impact that developing and managing an effective right-of-way (ROW) program can have on reliability, public safety and customer relations – to say nothing of the potential savings – can help encourage local power companies, both municipally and cooperatively-owned, to proactively implement a comprehensive, strategic ROW management plan.

The Strategic Utility ROW Management training program is designed to lay the foundation for utilities to create and implement a comprehensive ROW management strategy. Participants will learn the positive environmental, public relations and financial outcomes of effective urban forestry.

This training is made possible by grant funding provided by the USDA Forest Service and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry.

Introduction

- I. Overview
 - A. Why is ROW Management important?
 - B. What authority do we have to maintain our ROW?
 - C. What are the business objectives?
- II. Reliability
- III. Customer communication
- IV. Fiscal requirements
- V. Conclusion

- VI. Developing a ROW Program Strategy
 - A. Setting goals and objectives
 - i. Reducing tree-related outages
 - ii. Hazard tree assessment
 - iii. Improving accessibility
 - iv. Determining work load and density
 - a. Why is this so important?
 - v. Basic vegetation management concepts and principles
 - vi. Types of service purchasing and their advantages and disadvantages
 - a. T&M/unit work/mileage/circuit/lump sum
 - vii. Cycle length
 - viii. Having dedicated arborists/foresters running your program
 - ix. Meeting industry standards
 - x. Use of herbicides in accordance with federal and state laws
 - xi. Improving the urban forest
 - xii. Creating a predictable, effective and stable budget

- VII. Developing Your Line Clearance Program
 - A. Is it a Tree Trimming or Reliability Program?
 - B. Why have a ROW Program
- VIII. Path to a Best Management Practice ROW Program
 - A. DREMC history
 - B. Work load survey
 - C. Define program goals
 - D. Trial phase
 - E. System wide implementation
- IX. Building a Management Team
 - A. Dedicated in house staff
 - B. Planning Arborist, in house vs. contractor
 - C. Line Clearance Crews, Contractor vs. in house crews
 - D. District Operations
- X. Contract & Specification
 - A. What makes up a line clearance contract?
 - B. Terms & conditions
 - C. Specifications
 - i. Scope of Work
 - ii. General Requirements
 - iii. General Provisions
 - iv. Work Description & Clearance Guidelines
 - v. Billing
 - D. Pricing
- XI. Field Operations Work Plan Based on Actual Data
 - A. Circuit Priority
 - B. Outage Data
 - C. Planning Arborist
 - i. Forms
 - E. Budget for circuit
- XII. Performance Measures & Their Use
 - A. Contractor/Crew performance
 - B. Planning Arborist Goals
 - C. Work Audits -- Quality & Clearance
- XIII. Herbicide Program IVM
 - A. Tree Crews - Stump Treatment
 - B. Herbicide Crews
 - i. Foliage application
 - ii. Hack & Squirt / Basal
- XIV. Outage Reporting Practical Use
 - A. Types of tree related outages
 - B. Outage Data -- use it
- XV. Tree Line USA
 - A. A positive contact with members
- XVI. Tree Biology Basics
 - A. Codit - Compartmentalization of decay in trees
 - B. Root /shoot relationship
 - C. Tree response to wounding

- XVII. Utility Applications of Best Management Pruning Practices & Techniques
 - A. Natural target pruning
 - B. Directional pruning
 - C. Collar cuts
 - D. Wound closure
 - E. Included bark
 - F. Overhang
 - G. Crown reduction
 - H. Primary trim
 - I. Service Trim
 - J. V trims
 - K. Hazard trees
- XVIII. Integrated Vegetation Management
 - A. Management philosophy
 - i. Maintaining trees "one size fits all?"
 - a) Residential pruning
 - b) Rural walltrimming
 - ii. Floor – side – overhang
 - iii. Reliability based or cycle based
 - iv. Sunny day or stormy reliability
 - B. Circuit prioritization
 - i. 3-phase backbone
 - ii. Maintain the way it is built
 - iii. SAIDI and CAIDI
 - iv. Municipal partnerships
 - C. Continuous improvement; "How do you measure success?"
 - D. Tree-related outage %
 - E. Planned versus hotspot
 - F. Stabilized maintenance budget
- XIX. Integrated Vegetation Management ANSI A-300, Part 7
 - A. Set objectives
 - B. Evaluate site
 - C. Determine action thresholds
 - D. Select control methods
 - E. Communicate
 - F. Implement
 - G. Monitor treatment and quality assurance
 - H. Ecosystem Management
 - i. Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts
 - ii. Controlling non-native invasive species
 - iii. Managing bird, pollinator and other wildlife habitat
 - G. Contract specifications and certification
 - H. Stabilized budget
 - I. Partnerships and Awards
 - i. PESP
 - ii. WHC
 - iii. NAPPC

- J. Industry Best Management Practices
 - i. Closed Chain of Custody
 - ii. ROW Steward Accreditation Program
- XX. Tree Line USA
- XXI. Tennessee Pest Task Force – Thousand Cankers Disease/Emerald Ash Borer
- XXII. Conclusions & Q&A