

# Electrical Safety Rules to Live By

## Construction and Maintenance Activities:

- Constructing or maintaining buildings and other structures
- Installation or repair of lighting or signs
- Pulling or installing pump casing and pipe

## Landscaping and Timber Work:

- Tree trimming
- Pruning
- Harvesting of tree crops

## Liabilities of Owner or Operator of High Voltage Lines

The owner or operator shall not be liable for damage or loss to person or property resulting from work within 10 feet of high voltage lines unless notice has been given as required by law.

If the owner or operator fails to install the safeguards required by the law within a reasonable time after proper notice and appropriate arrangements have been made, such owner or operator shall be liable for the reasonable costs incurred by any such delay.



*This brochure in no way purports to be an official interpretation of the "High Voltage Safety Act: O.C.G.A. §§46-3-30 et seq. A copy of the "High Voltage Safety Act" statute may be obtained by visiting [georgia811.com](http://georgia811.com), clicking on "Resources," then "PDF Library."*



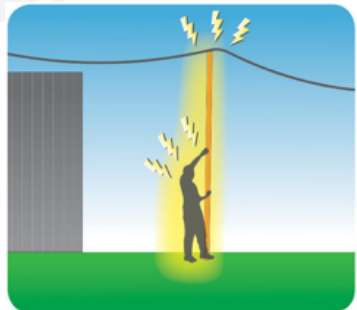
Call Georgia 811 to notify electric utilities before beginning work within 10 feet of electrical lines.



Tree trimming near power lines is a job for a qualified professional.



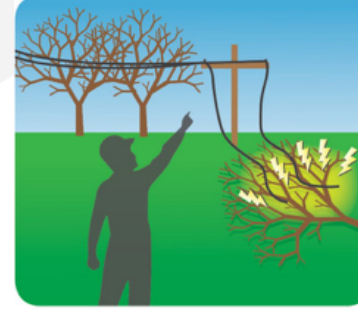
Never approach a vehicle that has come in contact with a power line.



Do not attempt to touch or raise a power line with a pole or other object.



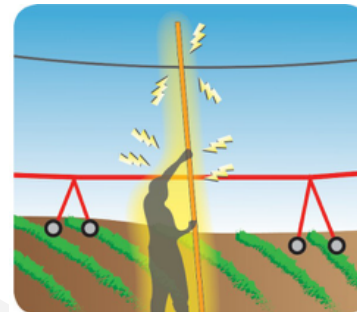
Always use a spotter when operating equipment near overhead lines.



Report fallen power lines immediately. Stay at least 30 feet away.



Lower a portable grain auger before moving.



Don't raise electrical conductors within 10 feet of an overhead power line.



Never raise a ladder within 10 feet of an overhead power line.

Georgia 8-1-1  
and the  
High Voltage  
Safety Act

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## Did you know that Georgia law requires that notification be given to through Georgia 811 to the electric utilities prior to certain work being commenced near overhead electric lines?

The high Voltage safety Act requires that anyone doing work that may come within 10 feet of an overhead high voltage electric line (750 volts and above) must notify Georgia 811 at least 72 hours in advance of such work (excluding weekends and holidays). Georgia 811 will then notify the owner or operator of the electric line so that appropriate safety measures can be put in place to prevent injuries, property damage and interruptions of electric service resulting from accidental or inadvertent contact with a high voltage electric line.

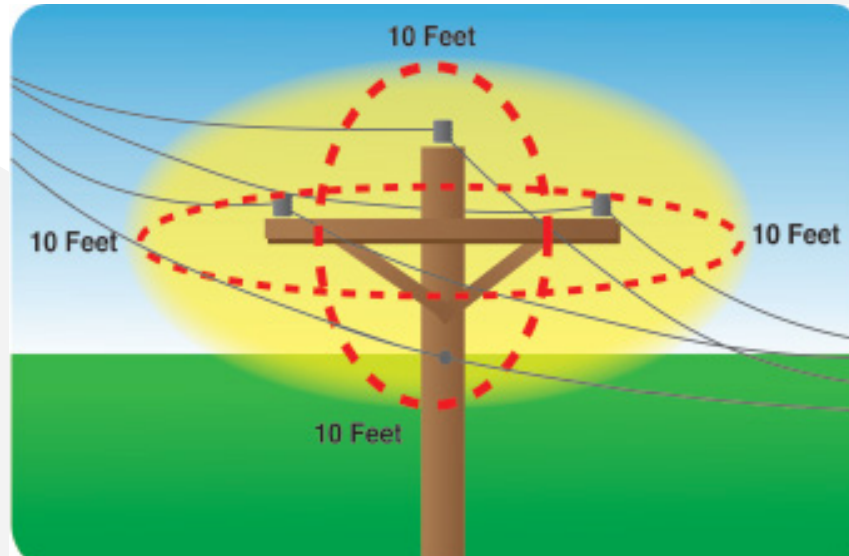
Failure to notify Georgia 811 constitutes a violation of the Act and can result in fines and penalties, in addition to liability for injuries and repair of damages. read on for more details about who is covered by the Act and the steps that must be taken to comply with the Act.

### What is the purpose of the High Voltage Safety Act?

The purpose of the high Voltage safety Act is to prevent injury to persons and prop-erty and inter-ruptions of utility service result-ing from accidental or inadvertent contact with high voltage electric lines by providing that no work shall be done in the vicinity of such lines unless and until the owner or operator thereof has been notified of such work and has taken one of the safety measures pre-scribed by the Act.

### Who and what is covered by the Act?

No person, firm, or corporation shall com-mence any work (defined at right) if at any time any person or any item so specified may be brought within ten (10) feet of any high voltage line (see right.) unless and until:



**FIRST**, “the person responsible for the work” has given the notice required by the Act; and

**SECOND**, the owner or operator of such high volt-age line has effectively guarded against danger from accidental contact by either deenergizing and grounding the line, relocating it, or installing protective covering or mechanical barriers, whichever safeguard is deemed by the owner or operator to be feasible under the circumstances.

**“WORK”** means the physical act of performing or preparing to perform any activity under, over, by, or near high voltage lines, including, but not lim-ited to, the operation, erection, handling, storage, or transportation of any tools, machin-ery, ladders, antennas, equipment, supplies, materials, or ap-paratus or the moving of any house or other struc-ture whenever such activity is done by a person or entity in pursuit of his trade or business.

**“PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK”** means the person actually doing the work, as well as any person, firm, or cor-poration who employs and carries on his payroll any person actually doing the work or who employs a subcontractor who actually does the work.

### What notice is re-quired by the Act?

Give the required no- tice to Georgia 811 at least 72 hours (excluding week- ends and holidays) prior to commencing the work. The notice must contain:

- Location (description of the land where work is to be done)
- County (where the work is to be done)
- Town (closest city or town)
- Name, address and phone number of person in charge of work
- Type of work
- Your name and telephone number
- Your company name and address
- Date(s) upon which the work will commence and be completed

If, after arrangements for completion of safety precautions have been made, there is a delay in commencing the work, the person responsible for the work is required to give a new notice.

### What happens after the required notice?

After receipt of proper notice, the owner and/or 811 member must contact the person giving notice within a reasonable amount of time. The owner or operator must make arrangements to complete safeguards, in-cluding coordination of work schedules and payment of costs, and must effect such safe-guards within a reasonable amount of time thereafter.

Prior to commencing the work, you must en-sure that the owner or operator of the high voltage line has effectively guarded against danger from accidental contact.

### What are the consequences of not complying with the Act?

#### Criminal Penalty and Fines:

Any person responsible for the work who violates the Act shall be guilty of a crime (a misdemeanor) and upon conviction, will be liable for the payment of a fine as follows:

- \$1,000 for the first offense
- \$3,000 for a second or subsequent offense

#### What type of work could bring me or my crew close to high voltageelectric lines?

Examples of equipment and activities that could get closer than 10 feet from an electric line include but are not limited to the following:

#### Heavy Equipment and Machinery:

- Cranes & booms
- Drilling rigs
- Excavators & backhoes
- Concrete pumpers
- Dump trucks & bucket trucks

#### Use and Handling of Materials and Equipment:

- Ladders
- Pipes
- Antennas
- Paint rollers
- Building materials
- Scaffolds & aerial lifts
- Long-handled tools & objects
- Securing logs or other large loads
- Throwing objects such as chains & ropes

#### Farm Equipment:

- Portable elevators
- Irrigation systems & pipes
- Harvesting machinery
- Grain augers
- Grain trucks

*Continued on the pack panel.*