

Tree Removal FAQ's

Q. Is there a charge to have my trees marked and removed?

A. No, the County of El Dorado is offering this service to you, free of charge.

Q: Will the County be removing trees that have already been cut down and are on my property?

A: No, the grants fund provided to counties for tree mortality only allows for removal of trees and woody debris that threaten County infrastructure. Trees that have been felled by PG&E will be removed by their contractor. You can contact PG&E by calling 1-800-743-5000. CAL FIRE will also be assisting with chipping the remaining debris from the County tree removal. CAL FIRE assistance may be intermittent as fire season begins. The crews will return as soon as possible to finish clean up. The homeowner may continue the clean-up if they do not want to wait.

Q: What if I want to keep some of the trees for firewood?

A: If you want to keep any trees, which have been cut down, please mark them with red flagging so we know which ones to take and which ones not to. Please keep in mind, if you choose to keep trees you will need to have them cleaned up to keep defensible space around your home, otherwise you may be cited by CAL FIRE. If you choose not to have the county remove the logs, and later decide you want them removed you will be responsible for the logistics and cost of removal.

Q: What is the right of entry permit and do I really need to sign it?

A: Signing and returning the right of entry permit is the only way we can have our Arborists, Foresters, Timber Operators, and CAL FIRE crews access your property to mark, fall, and remove any trees. Failing to sign and return the right of entry permit means that your home will be skipped over and you may be responsible for any damage the tree may cause if it falls on a road or structure. You could receive right of entry permits from PG&E (and their subcontractors), Caltrans, or other special districts (ex. EID, Grizzly Flats Community Services District) as well.

Q: When do you anticipate the project will start?

A: It is difficult to give an exact date because we need to receive the majority of the Right of Entry forms before developing a project to put out to bid. Furthermore, coordination with our contractors, PG&E, and Cal-Fire takes some time. The County will make every effort to post current tree removal projects on the Tree Mortality Web Page:

http://www.edcgov.us/Living/Tree_Mortality.aspx.

Q: PG&E cut down trees on my property and left logs and slash everywhere. Who can I contact to get them to clean it up?

A: Per PG&E's Public Utility Code, they are not required to remove the log once it is cut down since it is technically the resident's property; however, they do have a contractor with Phillips and Jordan, a debris management company to assist with the clean-up and removal of trees PG&E has felled. If you call the PG&E help desk at 1-800-743-5000 and ask to sign up for the debris removal program in El Dorado County, you will be put in contact with someone at PG&E who can assist you.

Q: What if I don't live at my home full-time but want to be there when the work is being done. Can you let me know when the work will take place?

A: You can be alerted when the tree marking and removal projects will begin by checking the County Tree Mortality web page (http://www.edcgov.us/Living/Tree_Mortality.aspx), but unfortunately because there is no way of telling how fast the projects will advance from property to property it is not possible to alert when work will begin on your specific property(s).

Q: Who can I contact if I have dead trees near my home?

A: If the tree is near a PG&E power line, please call them at 1-800-743-5000. If the tree is not near a power line but is near a County maintained road or building, please call the County at XXX-XXX-XXXX

Q: What other agencies are removing dead trees in the county.

A: There are multiple state and local agencies addressing tree mortality in our county:

- **County**, contractors will be marking and removing any tree that can fall and hit a county maintained road or county owned infrastructure.
- **PG&E** is marking and removing trees that would fall and knock down their power lines. They just recently launched their debris removal program in which they will remove trees and debris they fell that is within 100 feet of a home and 20 feet of a road.
- **Caltrans** is working in the County (e.g. on Highway 50). They can remove trees that 100ft from center-line on each side of the highway.
- **EID** is in the process of marking and removing trees that threaten its infrastructure (ditches, flumes, water tanks, etc.).
- **Grizzly Flats CSD** is in the process of developing its tree removal program.

All of these entities have their own right of entry permit that will need to be signed in order for the tree to be removed.