Session Descriptions

Monday | May 18

**Chainsaw Safety** (4 Hours)

Lineman and Line Clearance Session

This is a required course for all students. Because the remaining portion of the school will be hands-on, it is important to ensure that all employees understand the safe operation of a chainsaw. During this time, we will also cover the safety rules for the week. All attendees are expected to follow the rules and help others in order to make this a safe and fun learning opportunity.

Tuesday - Thursday | May 19 - 21

- Lineman Sessions | Tuesday & Wednesday | Sessions 3 and 4 Only
- Line Clearance Sessions | Tuesday-Thursday | Select 3 Session Options Below

1. **Basic Climbing** (8 Hours)

   Line Clearance Option

   This course is intended for the beginning climber. Students will learn the basic skills necessary to safely ascend, obtain optimal work positioning, and descend from a tree. They will begin by completing a job briefing and tree risk assessment to determine any hazards that could cause harm or injury to the climber, ground personnel, or the public. During this time students will learn to identify electrical hazards and minimum approach. There will also be an introduction to the many styles of climbing and the knots, equipment, and safety gear associated. Students will also be trained on the concepts of completing an aerial rescue from aloft. *(Not available in addition to Advanced Climbing)*

2. **Advanced Climbing** (8 Hours)

   Line Clearance Option

   Experienced climbers who are looking to become more efficient and increase their skill level in a tree will have the opportunity to take climbing to the next level. In this course students will begin by completing a tree risk assessment to determine any hazards that could cause harm or injury to the climber, ground personnel, or the public. The class will then focus on advanced climbing systems that will make the work easier, safer, and more enjoyable. This will include a breakdown of equipment, knots, and application. Students will be taught advanced techniques for maneuvering and working throughout the canopy of trees. In addition, they will learn different cutting options while pruning from...
within as well as options for tree removal. Students will also learn safe rigging applications that will help them understand how to avoid or eliminate hazards. *(Not available in addition to Basic Climbing)*

3. **Chainsaw Maintenance/Felling and Cutting** *(8 Hours)*
   **Lineman Session & Line Clearance Option**

   This is an in-depth course where students will begin by understanding how a saw works and what areas cause undesirable performance. Students will learn how to maintain their saws to offer maximum performance and safety. Many issues that would require a trip to the service shop get addressed in this class, and the students learn how to fix their saws in the field. It is important that the saws used for cutting and felling operations be in good working condition as they could cause potential hazards by performing poorly. The felling and cutting portion of this course will begin by completing a job briefing and tree risk assessment to determine any hazards that could cause harm or injury to the operator, ground personnel, or the public. At this time all potential obstacles are identified in order to eliminate the risk of property damage. Students will be taught many ways to fell trees focusing on ideal application and safety. They will also learn to identify and safely relieve compression and tension wood during a series. Students will be given the opportunity to practice what they have learned under the guidance of the instructors.

4. **Storm Damage & Rigging** *(8 Hours)*
   **Lineman Session & Line Clearance Option**

   When trees cause outages, they can also create a very dangerous work environment for employees who are attempting to restore power. This course is designed to be as realistic as possible. Students will be working on real power lines that have not been energized. Scenarios will be created to duplicate storm damage. Students will begin by completing a job briefing and determining the best practice for safely removing trees and vegetation based on the specific hazards. They will learn how to relieve wire tension in a controlled manner by using various rigging techniques. Students will also learn a variety of cutting practices that can be used in combination or when rigging is not an option. This course will focus heavily on preparation and hazard identification as the scenarios are realistic and require clear communication of all who attend.

5. **Line Trimming & Removal/Basic Rigging/Electrical Hazards** *(8 Hours)*
   **Line Clearance Option**

   This is a core knowledge course that should be attended by both experienced and inexperienced line clearance professionals. This class will give clear perspective on tree trimming and removal processes when near energized lines. Students will begin by completing a job briefing and tree risk assessment to determine any hazards that could cause harm or injury to the operator, ground personnel, or the public. While determining electrical hazards they will learn about the various equipment found on lines as well as their function and how a power distribution system works. Students will understand minimum approach and how determine a safe working distance. During both trimming and removal situations it is sometimes necessary to use rigging to safely complete a clearance procedure. Students will learn various cutting and rigging techniques to safely accomplish a desired line clearance.
Pruning Practices and Vegetation Management (4 Hours)

Line Clearance Option

This course will focus on the effects of different pruning practices in line clearance. Students will learn how using a proper technique could save time and money. This will include an arboricultural approach to trimming trees, introducing mechanical devices, applying herbicide, and tree removal.