

Electric Reliability – PSEG Tree Trimming Program



The reliability of the distribution of electric power to our homes includes regular trimming of our trees. In addition to the Village and our residents trimming and maintaining our own trees, PSEG has responsibility to maintain trees on the “right-of-way” for their electric lines. In our Village, those are “rear yard” lines, which are hard to access. We have been working with our partners at PSEG to support the

reliability of our electric distribution, including the need for “tree trimming.” The result is a plan that includes the following:

- Since Storm Sandy, our most vulnerable transformers, wires and poles have been replaced,
- More than 5 trees were removed in 2015 that were determined to be a danger to distribution lines,
- The common power line with Plandome (Plandome Court and north side of Bournedale North) has had extensive trimming, pole replacement and wire upgrade in 2014,
- In December 2015, fairly extensive “hot spot” trimming was performed in the Bournedales section and
- A full trimming of the distribution lines in the west side of the Village is being scheduled for mid-January 2016.

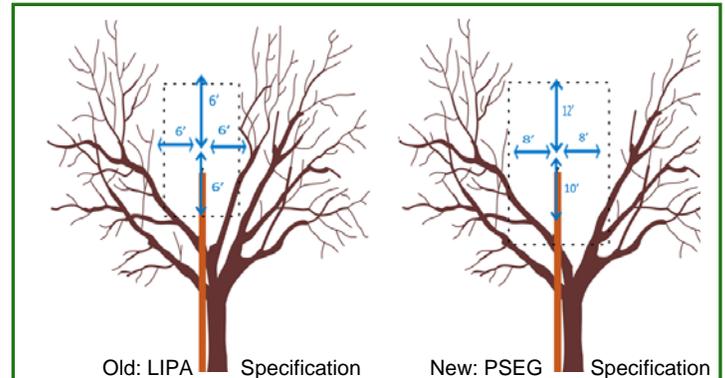
We are satisfied with these activities and this plan. It is important for residents to understand, and support, that the PSEG tree trimming program has changed. PSEG reports:

“In the wake of the severe storms that have struck Long Island recently, it was recognized that previous line clearance of 6 feet was not a utility best practice in maintaining reliability and service restoration in the event of an outage. As such, the goal is to create a larger buffer between the power lines and nearby trees and eliminate more potential outage threats. Therefore, we will prune trees to 10 feet below power line or prune to 8 feet on the

sides and 12 feet above the high voltage power lines.” PSEG-LI further reports that:

“Tree-related power outages are down 60 percent in areas where the new program has been implemented.”

On December 16, 2015, PSEG announced that LIPA had *approved modest increases in electricity rates in 2016 – 2018* partly directed at making investments in tree trimming and other factors to improve reliability and customer satisfaction. So we are paying for this increased effort.



The new trimming standard is depicted above. Residents will find this different from the past and we encourage you to understand that this is necessary for the reliability of our electric distribution and you should cooperate fully with the PSEG-LI tree trimmers. With “rear yard” lines this effort is done by hand by trimmers who need to climb the trees in your rear yard. The debris will be fully removed by the PSEG-LI trimming teams. The vendor for this effort is likely to be Asplundh and their representatives wear I.D. and safety vests.

As we move forward, PSEG-LI will be looking into replacing ageing poles and frayed distribution lines. This is a longer term project. For more information, you can visit the PSEGLI website

www.psegliny.com/page.cfm/Home/Safety/TreeTrimming