

OUTLET

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Hane Substation ribbon cutting

A ribbon cutting was held October 11 for Chugach's newest distribution substation, the Hane substation at Hane Street and O'Malley Road. Construction began on the \$10.9 million project in June of 2015, and the substation is expected to be energized by the end of this year.

Chugach employees, members of the Board of Directors, and contractors on the project gathered for the event which included a tour of the new facility. When the Hane substation goes on line it will help make power delivery in the area more reliable and give Chugach more options for handling electric load.

Construction of the substation, which sits on just over two acres, included over 180,000 pounds of steel and 25,000 feet of installed cable.



Ribbon cutting ceremony at Hane Substation. L - R: Board Directors Sisi Cooper, Susan Reeves, Harry Crawford, CEO Lee Thibert, Board Chair Janet Reiser and Sr. Manager Transmission Substation Engineering Jon Sinclair.

Members turn out for Appreciation Week

More than 700 Chugach members visited Chugach during Member Appreciation Week. The week, October 10-14, served as an opportunity for Chugach to join utilities across the nation in celebrating Energy Awareness and National Cooperative Month. In order to show appreciation for Chugach members, activities, demonstrations, and giveaways were offered each day of the week. The highlight was Friday when Chugach offered a hot dog BBQ and rides in the 100 foot bucket truck. {1034467}



Clear Right-of-Way = Safe and Reliable Power

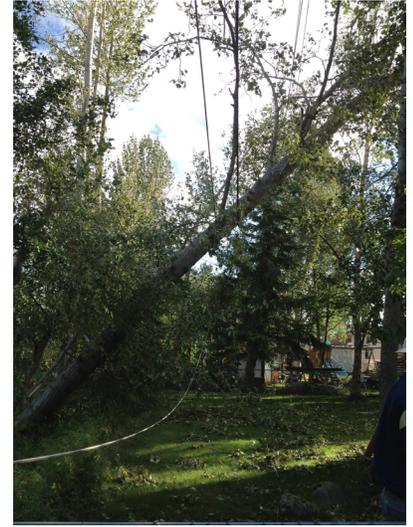
In order to provide safe and reliable service to our members, Chugach has a year-round program to remove trees and other vegetation from utility easements. Also commonly called right-of-way clearing, properly maintaining these areas is required by the National Electric Safety Code.



Cleared right-of-way



Not cleared right-of-way



Not cleared after a storm

Chugach's program utilizes best practices in vegetation management and has been recognized 17 times as a Tree Line USA utility.

Trees falling into power lines are one of the leading causes of power outages. Keeping the easement—our right-of-way—clear reduces tree-related outages, and allows crews to safely and efficiently restore power after an outage or perform maintenance when required. An easement with trees growing into the power lines is a safety hazard for crews and the public.

The work includes removing trees and brush within the full width of the easement, which is generally 10-feet on each side, for a 20-foot span. After clearing an easement, two-foot-sized pieces are left behind for locals to use as firewood. If not utilized, the wood will be picked up and hauled away. Tree stumps are either cut to within a few inches of the ground or ground up with a mulcher/mower. Trees outside Chugach's easements are not removed without signed permission from the property owner.

The Chugach tree-clearing program runs on a three-year cycle, meaning we try to cover our service area every three years. Recent warmer winters and summers have led to faster vegetation growth, so it is critical we stay current with our program. Members will receive a letter about two weeks before easement work is to begin in their area. The day the crew comes to do the clearing, they will knock on the homeowner's door before beginning work. For questions about Chugach's vegetation clearing program, please call 762-7655.

Change is coming - paperless election

It is time to start gearing up for the 2017 Annual Meeting and Election. Over the past several years, voting opportunities have been increased by adding electronic voting and voting by telephone. Additionally, Chugach has encouraged members to reduce paper waste and postage expense by going paperless and viewing election related materials online. This upcoming election season we are moving to a paperless election and will no longer be mailing the election packet to all members.

In the past, you received your election packet in the mail. This packet included your paper ballot, the election pamphlet and financial information. For the 2017 election season, all the election materials will be conveniently located online at www.chugachelectric.com. Members will be able to view all the election publications in one place, become fully informed and then vote electronically. Paper ballots and election materials will be available upon request.



Chugach diverted Stetson Creek into Cooper Lake and reduced CO2 emissions by 1,905 tons per year.



Stetson Creek diversion

Follow us on



The Outlet

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Member number hide-n-seek

Find your member number (in brackets) in the Outlet and get a \$100 credit on your electric bill. Call Chugach's service center at 563-7366 to claim your prize.