



Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association

# Tree Trimming Workshop

August 4–6, 2026



Elk River Field Services Building  
1435 Main St NW, Elk River, MN

# 2026 Tree Trimming Workshop

**This workshop is intended for any municipal employee responsible for tree work. It's not just for lineworkers.**

The course will include classroom and hands-on field work and will take place rain or shine. Please come prepared with the proper tools, personal protective equipment, and other necessary items (see section on what to bring).

## Team of instructors

Training will be led by MMUA's Jake Kuntz, Jay Reading, and Mike Grabow. All three of them have extensive training and experience, including attending a 30-hour specialized tree work training course. Additionally, Jake is a licensed Minnesota tree inspector and a certified arborist.

## What do I need to bring?

Please bring appropriate attire and personal protective equipment including:

- High-visibility clothing/outerwear
- Hard hat
- Safety glasses
- Face protection
- Hearing protection
- Long sleeve shirt
- Work gloves/gauntlets
- Safety footwear
- Chain saw in protective case and extra chain
- Mixed gas in approved container

## Agenda

### Tuesday, August 4

- 12:00–1:00 Registration/check-in
- 1:00 Welcome and introductions
- 1:15–4:00 Classroom instruction:
  - Safety standards
  - Hazard recognition
  - Chain saw safety and maintenance
  - Disease prevention

### Wednesday, August 5

- 8:00–12:00 Hands-on tree work including rigging techniques and proper application
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch provided
- 1:00–4:00 Hands-on tree work continued

### Thursday, August 6

- 8:00–10:00 Overview of tree species and tree trimming/cutting recommendations
- 10:00–11:30 Wood chipper safety and proper use
- 11:30–12:00 Group discussion and recap

Schedule is subject to change without notice

## Registration information

### Workshop fees

Regular member: \$585

Associate/Affiliate member: \$685

Nonmember: \$880

Registration fee includes workshop fees, materials, lunch, and refreshment breaks.

Registration fee increases \$50 after July 3, 2026.

Advance registration closes on July 17, 2026. MMUA will issue a refund (less \$50 processing fee per person) provided MMUA is notified of the cancellation by 4:30 pm on July 17. Refunds issued to a credit card will be subject to a 3% fee.

To register, visit [mmua.org/events/2026tree](https://mmua.org/events/2026tree)

## Hotel information

MMUA has secured a block of rooms at a reduced rate. Please call the hotel directly and ask for MMUA's reduced rate when making your reservation or use the link below. We recommend making your reservation as soon as possible, as availability cannot be guaranteed.

### Wyndham Garden Otsego–Minneapolis

9200 Quaday Ave

Otsego, MN

Phone 763-656-4400

<https://shorturl.at/sgFpM>