

UNDERSTANDING POLE ATTACHMENTS

- Electrical Service Equipment
- Third-party Attachments

Required Safety Clearances

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The way utility poles are arranged is no accident.

- **Safety First:** Preserving reliable power to families and communities, and keeping our local lineworkers and the public safe, must be our foremost concern.
- **Space is Limited:** The National Electric Safety Code requires safety clearances and weight (loading) restrictions that may necessitate a pole replacement before the end of its useful life to accommodate third-party attachments.

- **Storm Restoration:** Avoiding overloading means fewer outages and quicker outage restoration, whether the result of storms, vehicle accidents, or other causes.
- **Ice Load:** Additional line load is additional weight, even in good weather. Ice and snow accumulation places a higher burden on overloaded poles.

- **Powered by Individual Communities:** Local municipalities are best equipped to determine community needs and ensure equitable electric power and third-party access.
- **Who Paid for the Pole?:** It is inequitable for all electric customers in a city to subsidize the subset of recipients the telecommunications companies choose to serve.

