

Hanging Wire Safety

How to prevent coming into contact with power lines and other overhead wires

When driving...



Scan your surroundings and always keep an eye on the road ahead for down or overhead wires, including phone, cable, internet, and fiber optic lines.



Be aware of potential hazards, as wires may be obscured by tree branches or overgrown vegetation.



Know your truck clearance. If you are unsure, **get out and look**, and take precaution.



Periodically **inspect your truck** to ensure that nothing is sticking out (1) of the hopper; (2) in between tailgate and body; or (3) out dumpster.



Label dumpsters with overhead wire warning decals.



Report low-hanging wires to your dispatcher, supervisor, or safety manager to (1) get them noted on account/route sheet and (2) addressed by the owner.

When not driving...



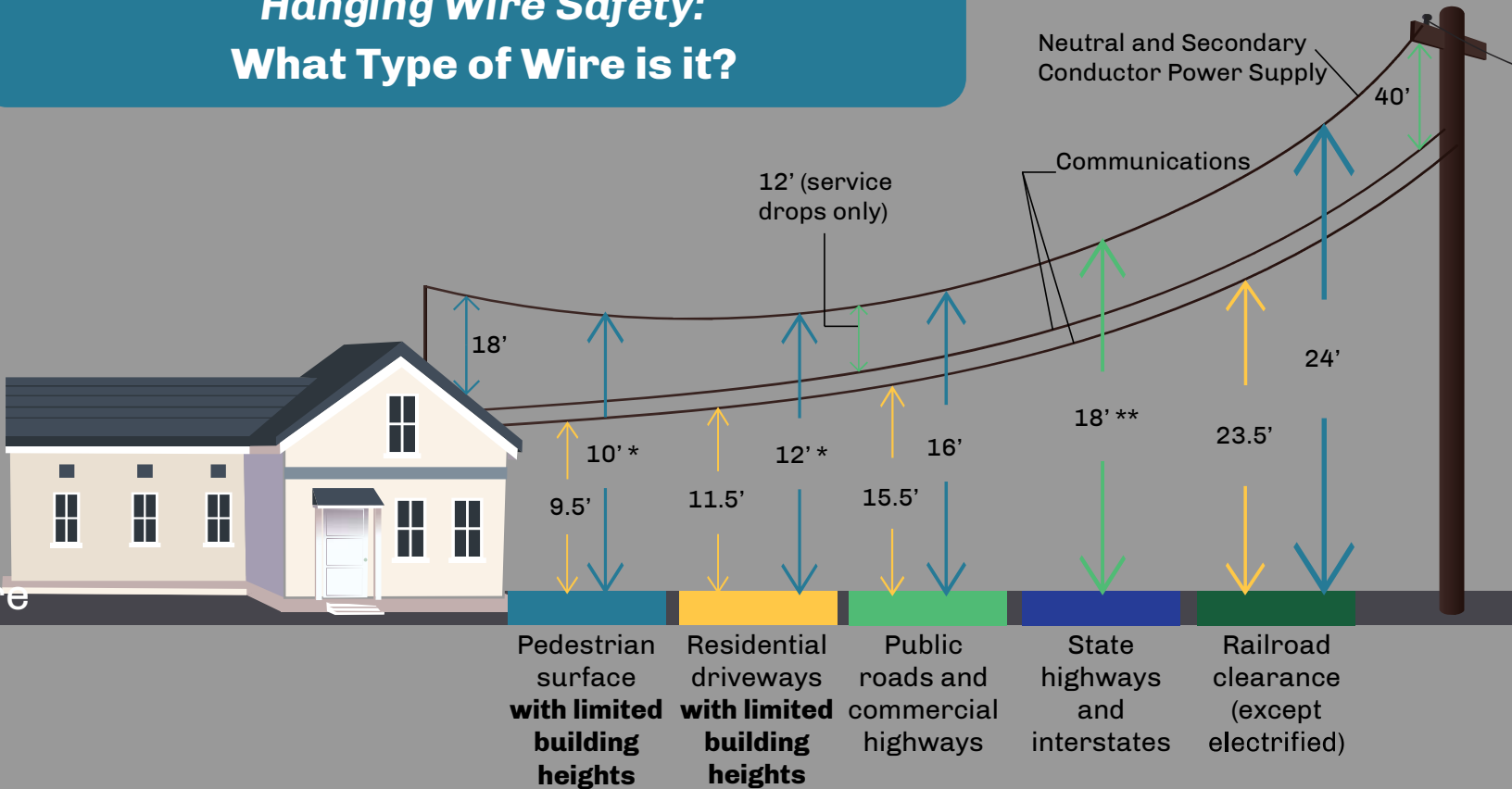
While in operation with load raised



Ensure you have adequate clearance before raising anything above your truck.

Beware! Electricity can jump to the truck if any part of the truck comes within the 10ft clearance of the powerline.

Hanging Wire Safety: What Type of Wire is it?



* Supply service drops limited to 150V to Ground

** For clearance over state highways, refer to OAR 734-055-0090(4)

Source: The National Electrical Safety Code

Assume **ALL** wires are energized: Check for any sparks/fire

Contact with **a hanging wire**

- ✓ Look at where the wires are attached to the support post to help you determine what type of wire(s) is down.
- ✓ General communication wires (phone, cable, internet) are the lowest on the pole.
- ✓ Power lines are the highest on the pole.

- ✓ **STOP**
- ✓ Call your supervisor and follow your company policy or procedure.
- ✓ Exit with your feet together and “bunny hop” out of the vehicle.
- ✓ Ensure 50 ft clearance around the truck.
- ✓ **Beware of arcing** - call out to onlookers to “stay back 50 ft.” Electricity can arc, or jump across the gap.
- ✓ Take pictures or video if possible.