

Periodically, utility poles need to be serviced and when this occurs aerial work is required. When this happens you may be required to climb them. This type of work can be very hazardous if you are not familiar with the dangers and do not wear the appropriate PPE.

When climbing poles, you should always wear head protection, safety goggles/glasses and have your first aid and CPR certification current. Additionally, wear:

- Steel-toed, reinforced-sole tower-climbing boots or shoes
- Leather work gloves
- Clothing to protect against cuts and abrasions

Your climbing equipment should also be inspected and ready for use.

When climbing a pole, there should be a minimum of two qualified climbers on site. Proper communication should always be maintained between those conducting elevated work and those on the ground.

Observe the following:

- Never climb a pole during adverse weather conditions
- Maintain a 3-point contact with the pole
- Do not carry tools when climbing, use body belt pockets, other carrying devices or have tools hoisted to your location
- Do not use an improvised safety strap, or one that has been lengthened by the addition of rope or wire
- Always make sure there is at least 1 foot of pole above your strap
- Do not use pins, crossarm braces, or guy wires as supports. If more than one person is working on the same pole, make sure only one person climbs at a time and the other is strapped in position
- Confirm the safety strap is hooked to the D-ring by visually checking it after you hear the snapping sound
- Make sure keepers on the snap hooks of the safety strap are facing away from the body



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Before climbing a pole, what certification should be current?

What PPE should be worn when climbing a pole?

When climbing a pole, there should be a minimum of two qualified what on site?

What are some safe practices to follow, when climbing a pole?

SAFETY TALK ATTENDANCE ROSTER



COMPANY: _____ JOB/DEPT: _____

DATE: ___/___/___ TIME: _____

TOPICS ADDRESSED: _____

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURES:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: _____

ACTION TAKEN: _____

Supervisor's Signature

___/___/___
Date

Safety Coordinator's Signature

___/___/___
Date