

ELECTRICAL TOWERS

Electrical towers cross the heart of the Oxbow floodplain. They bring vital electricity to Southeast Indiana. The path of the lines come across the Great Miami River from the Fort Hill Power Plant on the east shore of the river and follows the railroad tracks for nearly a mile before the towers turn the wires turn to the northwest and follow the farm fields alongside Oxbow Lake.

The towers carry the wires high above Osprey Lake and off Oxbow property, crossing the levee and US Hwy. 50. It is the right of the power companies to keep trees away from the wires. We learned a few years back that one tree shorting out a tower near Akron, OH can cause a cascade that can black out the entire northeast. Needless to say, electrical companies have been a bit overzealous ever since.

Most of the area under the wires in the Oxbow is short brush or farm crops. Only an area near the Oxbow Lake parking overlook is in danger. This area does help stabilize the shoreline of Oxbow Lake and we try to convince the tree crews to be selective in what they cut and not clear cut the shoreline. The towers do have wildlife value in that they often serve as perches for hunting birds such as Red-tailed Hawks, Bald Eagles, and Peregrine Falcons.

For more information, visit www.oxbowinc.org or call 812-290-2941.

For assistance in the event of an emergency, please call 911 (make sure you advise you are in Indiana) or the Dearborn County Sheriff's Dispatch at (812) 537-3431.