

Tree trimming

Trees in home landscapes will be trimmed to provide adequate clearance from electric lines until maintenance is scheduled again. Some tree species require more clearance.

Trees which endanger secondary lines (that portion between the transformer and the meter location) may be trimmed or partially removed by Marshfield Utilities, or we may assist by temporarily dropping the electric wires to allow for trimming by the customer.

Since Marshfield Utilities believes in chemical free trimming, there may be trees that seem to have been missed. This is due to regulations that help prevent spread of certain diseases. However, crews track these trees and trim at later dates when danger of disease transmission has passed.

Tree removal

Sometimes the only solution is removal of the tree. Trees which pose a hazard to the main (primary) lines or which would require repeated trimming due to their proximity to the lines may be considered for removal.

Customers may remove or transplant small trees (under 10 feet in height) located within the right-of-way to help eliminate future maintenance and reduce service reliability problems.

Debris disposal

Normally, small branches will be cleaned up by the tree crews. The larger limbs will be left for disposal by the customer. If trimming or removal is necessary because trees have caused a power outage, or if you have requested the work, all branches and limbs will be left for your disposal.

Options

We want to work with our customers to make sure outages are limited and everyone is safe. Avoiding the problem isn't a solution. Call Marshfield Utilities to see what can be done if you need to discuss other options.

Before planting trees

Before planting, please consider the mature size of the tree. Trees that will mature to over 15 feet in height should be planted well outside the right-of-way corridor to avoid future contacts with the power lines. See the recommended planting diagram above.



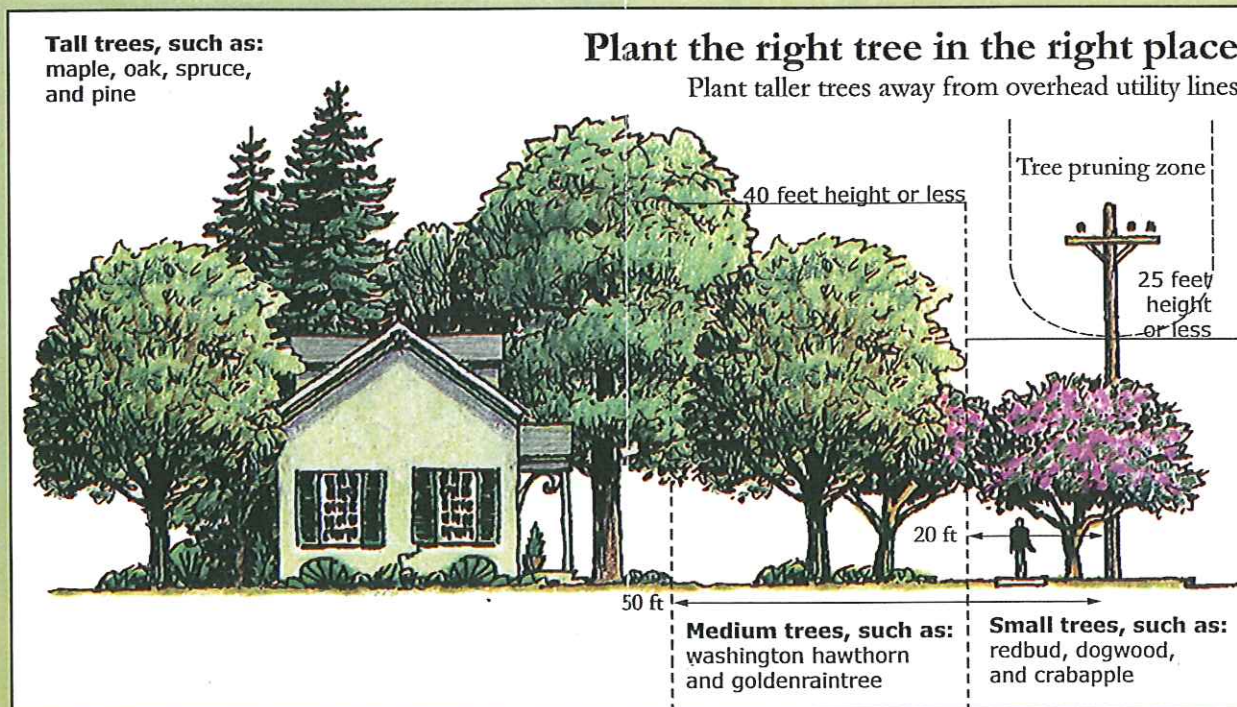
Also before planting, please remember underground electric lines must be located. Call Diggers Hotline at 1-800-242-8511 three work days before you plan to dig. You or the contractor will be responsible for paying the cost of repair to lines if damaged due to a dig-in.

We also recommend you avoid planting trees over or near underground lines since necessary repair of those lines could cause damage to trees planted near the cable.

It's also a safety issue

Trees that are close to electric lines can be safety hazards to children who climb trees. An unsuspecting child could contact the wires resulting in severe injury or death. Especially during damp weather, electrical shock can occur when a person touches a tree that is touching a wire. It is not necessary to actually touch the wire itself to sustain a serious or even fatal electric shock.

Additional information concerning planting, pruning, pests or diseases available on the DNR Urban Forest website <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/publications/index.htm#ucf>



Compatible species list.
Low growing trees or shrubs
 (15' or less at maturity)

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Trees: | Fringe Tree |
| Selected crabapples | Gray Dogwood |
| Pink Spires | Royal Star Magnolia |
| Firebird | Miss Kim Lilac |
| Lancelot | Dwarf Korean Lilac |
| Louisa | Russian Hawthorn |
| Coralburst | Viburnum Tree |
| Red Jewel | Also, most dwarf apple, pear, plum, and cherry trees are acceptable. |
| Tina | |
| Burning Bush Tree | |

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Shrubs: | Ninebark |
| Azaleas | Serviceberry |
| Purpleleaf Sand Cherry | Rhododendron |
| Chokeberry | Smokebush |
| Cotoneaster | Snowberry |
| Red Twigged Dogwood | Spirea |
| Elderberry | Sumac |
| Forsythia | Viburnum |
| Hazelnut | Weigela |
| Lilac (all varieties) | Winterberry |
| Mock Orange | Witchhazel |



Evergreen Trees & Shrubs

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dwarf Alberta Spruce | Macopin Pine |
| Aurea Compacta Hemlock | Mugho Pine |
| Blue Shag Pine | Sherwood Compact Spruce |
| Acrocona Spruce | Swiss Stone Pine 'Silver Whisper' |
| DeGroots Spire Arborvitae | Techny Arborvitae |
| Globe Blue Spruce | Yellow Ribbon Arborvitae |
| Emerald Fountain Hemlock | Dwarf Serbian Spruce |
| Holmstrup Arborvitae | Medora Juniper |
| Japanese Yew | |

Why line clearance is so important

A primary cause of power outages and blinks is trees contacting power lines. When tree limbs grow too close to power lines they can cause damage or interrupt your service. They could also create a safety hazard to you or your neighbors.

Marshfield Utilities (MU) makes every effort to provide you with safe and reliable electric service.



Sometimes, to provide uninterrupted service it is necessary to trim trees when they are located too close to power lines.

MU assists with the tree clearance from our lines to the meter location. All lines beyond the meter location belong to the customer, and tree clearance on those lines is the customer's responsibility. MU recommends hiring a professional, line-clearance-certified tree contractor when tree work near electrical conductors is necessary. We encourage you to call us for an evaluation of the situation if you suspect a danger exists.



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