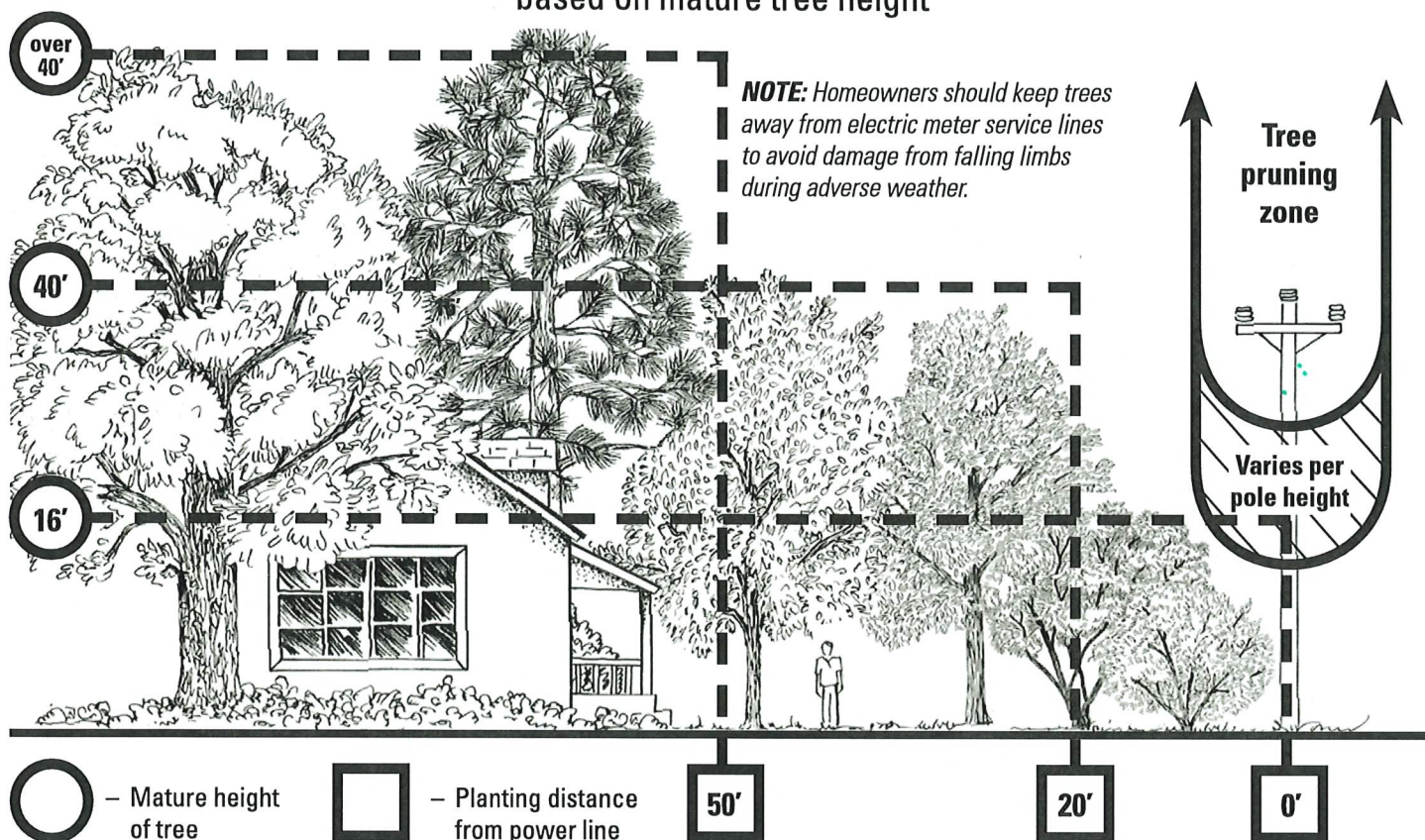


Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

Recommended distance to plant trees away from **distribution lines** based on mature tree height



When trees grow into power lines, they can cause power outages and create safety hazards for you and your neighbors. Use the guide above to select trees that have a short mature height and spread that will not interfere with nearby power lines.

Before you dig, call 811 to locate underground utilities.

And remember to "look up and live": stay at least 10 feet away from power lines.

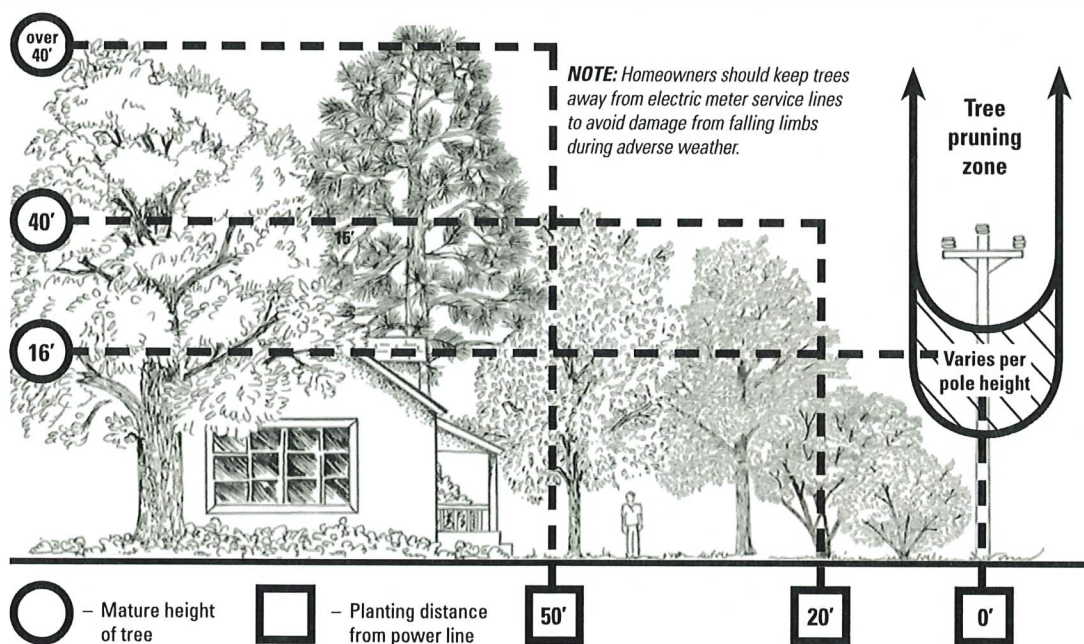


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For more information, visit www.CenterPointEnergy.com/trees

Recommended list of low-growing trees suitable for planting near power distribution lines

Common Name	Scientific Name	Mature Tree Height
Texas Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis var. texensis</i>	20 ft.
Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	30 ft.
Texas Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus texana</i>	20 ft.
Yaupon Holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	15 - 25 ft.
Dwarf Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia spp. (dwarf varieties)</i>	20 ft.
Southern Waxmyrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	10 - 20 ft.
Texas Pistache	<i>Pistacia texana</i>	10 ft.
Mexican Plum	<i>Prunus mexicana</i>	20 ft.
Little Gem Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem'</i>	15 - 20 ft.
Pygmy Date Palm	<i>Phoenix roebelenii</i>	8 ft.
Mediterranean Fan Palm	<i>Chamarops humilis</i>	15 ft.

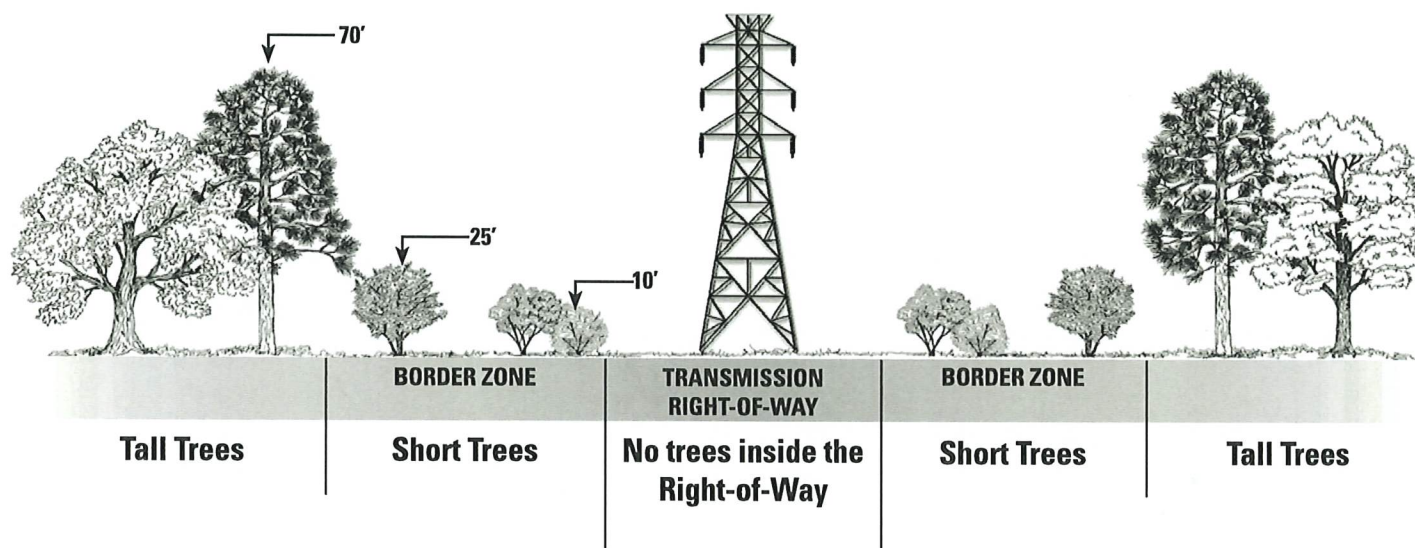


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Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

Plant trees farther away from **transmission lines** as mature tree height increases.



CenterPoint Energy's policy is to remove vegetation that will at some time interfere with the safe operation of our transmission lines. The intent is to produce a low-growing, predictable environment within our transmission line corridors, which has been recognized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as a utility model for ensuring safe and reliable operation of the transmission grid.

Tall-growing trees inside the transmission right-of-way located underneath or near transmission lines will be removed for safety and reliability. Use the guide above to place trees safe distances away from and never beneath transmission lines. For an approved list of compatible vegetation for transmission rights-of-way, please contact CenterPoint Energy at 713-207-2222 or 1-800-332-7143, and a transmission forester will be notified to assist you.

Before you dig, call 811 to locate underground utilities.
And remember to "look up and live": stay at least 10 feet away from power lines.



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Low-Growing Vegetation Suitable for Transmission Corridors

The following is a list of small shrubs acceptable for planting within transmission corridors. Most bedding plants and ground covers are acceptable and not covered within this document. Permission must be obtained from CenterPoint Energy prior to planting anything within a transmission corridor to ensure the type and location of the vegetation does not block access to the corridor or affect the ability to inspect and maintain the transmission lines. For permission, please contact the CenterPoint Energy Surveying & Right of Way Department at 713-207-5769. For questions about approved species, please contact CenterPoint Energy at 713-207-2222 or 1-800-332-7143 and a company forester will be notified to assist you.

AQUIFOLIACEAE

Ilex glabra

Inkberry

Height: 6 - 8 feet

Leaves: lustrous, dark green, some times yellow green (evergreen)

Fruit: black berry, September-May

Landscape Value: excellent for foundation, hedges, masses, or an accent plant

Ilex verticillata

Winterberry

Height: 6 - 10 feet

Leaves: deep rich green (deciduous)

Fruit: bright red, August-September

Landscape Value: excellent for mass effect. Needs male and female for fruit set

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

Viburnum acerifolium

Maple-leaf viburnum

Height: 4 - 6 feet

Leaves: bright green, changing to red or purple in fall (deciduous)

Flower: yellowish white, June

Landscape Value: shade tolerant, fall colors are brilliant (pink, rose, red, to grape juice purple)

CELASTRACEAE

Euonymus americanus

Strawberry bush

Height: 4 - 6 feet

Leaves: dark green changing to yellow green in fall (evergreen)

Flower: 5 petaled greenish purple, July-September

Landscape Value: goes unnoticed until September or October when the warty, scarlet capsules open to display orange seeds. From this character it gets its other common name "hearts-a-burstin"

RUBIACEAE

Cephalanthus occidentalis

Button bush

Height: 6 - 10 feet

Leaves: bright green lustrous above, lighter pubescent below (deciduous)

Fruit: red or brown rounded mass of nut-lets

Landscape Value: does well in moist sites, has a rather loose, gangly appearance

ROSACEAE

Spirea x bumalda

Bumald Spirea

Height: 2 - 5 feet, depending on variety

Leaves: variable, depending on variety; bronze, red, pinkish-red-purple when young, finally changing to green or variegations of green, yellow, gold, or burgundy; fall colors vary from greenish purple, orange-red, and chartreuse

Flower: white to deep pink, June – August

Landscape Value: Good filler, can be used as a low massing plant

SAXIFRAGACEAE

Itea virginica

Virginia sweetspire

Height: 3 - 9 feet

Leaves: bright green changing to crimson in fall (deciduous)

Flower: white, upright, fragrant, June-July

Landscape Value: flowers at a time when few plants are in flower. Likes moist to wet sites. Not utilized enough in home landscapes, holds its leaves a long time

STYRACACEAE

Styrax americanus

American snowbell

Height: 6 - 8 feet

Leaves: bright green (deciduous)

Flower: white bell-shaped, hang down instead of facing up, (June- July)

Landscape Value: slender stem rather wispy shrub, likes cool, moist, acidic sites, excellent for southern gardens

VERBENACEAE

Callicarpa americana

American beautyberry

Height: 3 - 8 feet

Leaves: medium green, pubescent (deciduous)

Flower: light lavender pink, June-August

Fruit: violet to magenta berry

Landscape Value: good shrub for massing

Definition of Terms:

pubescentcovered with short, soft hairs

glabrous.....smooth, not pubescent or hairy

lustrous.....slight gloss

deciduousfalling away, not persistent

persistentremaining attached for more than one season, not falling off in autumn

evergreen.....having green foliage throughout the year

semi-evergreen.....green for only a part of the winter, or only part of the foliage fully evergreen

Other Notable Vegetation**

Azaleas

Camellia

Hibiscus

Japanese Boxwood

Hydrangea

Pampas Grass, Maidenhair Grass, etc.

Barberry

Chokeberry

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia* sp.) – some varieties

**Many other shrubs and ground covers

For questions about approved species, please contact CenterPoint Energy at 713-207-2222 or 1-800-332-7143 and a company forester will be notified to assist you.

Picture Gallery of Approved Vegetation

Inkberry



Winterberry



Maple-leaf viburnum



Strawberry bush



Button bush



Virginia sweetspire



Bumald Spirea 'Goldmound'



Bumald Spirea 'Anthony Waterer'



Bumald Spirea 'Gold Flame'



American snowbell



American beautyberry

