

OPPD has received the Tree Line USA designation from the National Arbor Day Foundation. The NADF, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes utilities that employ practices to protect and enhance America's urban forests.

For more information about planting trees, call 536-4131, press 0 at the main menu, then press 5 to speak with a representative.

Outside the metro area, you may call toll-free 1-877-536-4131.

The tree species table is a condensed version of "Street Tree Fact Sheets," published by the School of Forest Resources at Penn State University.

You may order this booklet from: Publications Department, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802



444 South 16th Street Mall Omaha, NE 68102-2247 www.oppd.com

Trees and Transmission Lines



Planting Trees and Shrubs Near Transmission Lines

Transmission lines are high-voltage power lines that transmit power long distances. OPPD transmission lines can come in a variety of sizes and shapes, but have in common the fact that hazardous conditions will occur if tree limbs grow close to the lines. Managing the growth of trees and shrubs near power lines is crucial to maintaining safety and reliability for OPPD customers.

To ensure safe distances between trees and transmission lines, it is necessary for OPPD to patrol the transmission system periodically. An inspection may indicate that the following actions must be taken by forestry personnel.

- A forester may consult with the property owner concerning the types of trees that can be planted adjacent to power lines.
- A forester may recommend relocating existing trees that, at maturity, will interfere with power lines.
- A forester may notify the owner that trees are endangering the lines and trimming is necessary to eliminate the hazard. Removal of a tree is an option that may be recommended.

Planting Shrubs

The following is a list of large flowering shrubs that not only add color and variety to your land-scape, but act as effective barriers when grown as a hedge. Make sure shrubs are planted a safe distance from power lines.

Cotoneaster grows 10 to 15 feet tall and 6 to 10 feet wide. It has lush rows of dark-green leaves, changing to yellow or red in the fall. Small pink flowers appear in late spring. It has a medium growth rate.

Winged Euonymus attains a height and spread of 10 to 15 feet at maturity. It produces "winged" stems that hold snow in the winter. Every autumn, the whole plant becomes bright pink to light red. It is slow-growing.

Border Forsythia grows 8 to 10 feet tall and wide. For two to three weeks in early to mid-spring, the plant puts on deep-yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers. It is fast-growing.

Mock Orange matures to 10 to 12 feet in height and width. It produces fragrant blossoms of white flowers in the spring. The erect branches of this old-fashioned shrub eventually curve and droop. The growth rate is fast.

Common Ninebark grows to 7 to 10 feet in height and width. Summer foliage is yellow-green. Young stems are shiny reddish-brown. It sheds long stringy strips as it matures. Flowers are fragrant white and purple clusters that come out in early to mid-summer. The growth rate is fast.

Common Buckthorn is a dense, large shrub that attains a height of 12 to 25 feet and a width of 10 to 18 feet. It has dark, glossy, green foliage that lasts until late fall. It is a tough, adaptable plant, tolerant of poor sites. It grows at a medium rate.

Bridal Wreath Spirea matures to a height of 5 to 8 feet and a width of 6 feet. It has profuse, white, double flowers that bloom in early to mid-spring. Its growth rate is medium.

Common Lilac grows to 8 to 20 feet tall and 6 to 15 feet wide. It has strongly fragrant, dense flower spikes that bloom in mid- to late spring. The growth rate is medium. It should be planted in a site with full sun and good air movement.

Arrowwood Virburnum matures to a height of 8 to 15 feet, and the spread is 6 to 12 feet. It blossoms with white flowers in mid- to late spring for 10 to 14 days. The leaves turn purplish-red in the fall. It produces attractive clusters of blue/black fruit that attract birds in late summer.

Look Up Before You Plant

The following is a list of trees, their characteristics, and the distances they should be planted from electric transmission lines. No trees should be planted directly under a power line. Look up and around to make sure the right tree is planted in the right location.

Trees that mature at a height of less than 30 feet can be planted 10 feet from power lines.											
Species	Height	Width	Flower Color	Fruit Color	Foliage Color	Insects (Potential	Disease Problems)				
Crab Apples											
 Sargent 	6-8 ft.	8-15 ft.	White	Red		Light	Light				
 Yorkshire 	10-15 ft.	10-15 ft.	Pink	Red		Light	Light				
•Golden Raindrop	18-20 ft.	10-15 ft.	White	Golden		Light	Light				
Snowdrift	18-22 ft.	18-22 ft.	White	Orange		Light	Seldom				
Prairie Fire	18-20 ft.	18-20 ft.	Red	Red		Light	Light				
Red Baron	15-20 ft.	15-20 ft.	Red	Red	Purple-Spring - Orange/Red-Fall	Light	Seldom				
Spring Snow	25-30 ft.	8-10 ft.		No fruit		Light	Seldom				
Japanese Tree Lilac	20-30 ft.	15-20 ft.	White			Seldom	Seldom				
Canada Red Cherry	20-30 ft.	15-20 ft.	White	Purple	Reddish Purple Most of Season	Seldom	Seldom				
Star Magnolia		10-15 ft.			Yellow to Bronze In Fall	Seldom	Seldom				
Cockspur Hawthorn				Red	Orange/Purplish - Red in Fall	Seldom	Seldom				
Eastern Redbud	25-30 ft.	25-30 ft.	Pink	Yellow in Fall		Seldom	Potentially Severe				
Serviceberry	15-30 ft.	15-20 ft.	White	Purple	Orange/Red In Fall	Seldom	Seldom				
Amur Maple	15-20 ft.	15-20 ft.	White	Red	Orange/Red In Fall	Seldom	Seldom				
American Arbor Vitar	15-20 ft.	6-20 ft.			Evergreen	Seldom	Seldom				
Mug Pine	12-15 ft.				Evergreen	Light	Light				
			of 20 AE fo	ak abauld k							
Trees that mature at a height of 30 - 45 feet should be planted at least 25 feet from power lines.											
Crimson King Norway Maple	35-45 ft.	25-35 ft.			Purplish Red	Seldom	Seldom				
American Hophornbean	30-40 ft.	20-30 ft.				Light	Light				
Golden Raintree	25-40 ft.	25-40 ft.	Yellow			Light	Light				
Amur Corktree	35-45 ft.	30-40 ft.				Light	Light				
Aristocrat Pear	35-45 ft.	25-35 ft.	White		Red in Fall	Light	Seldom				
Chanticleer Pear	35-40 ft.	15-20 ft.	White		Plum Red In Fall	Light	Seldom				
Mountain Ash	15-35 ft.	20-30 ft.	White	Red	Yellow/Orange in Fall	Seldom	Potentially Severe				
Scotch Pine	30-50 ft.	25-40 ft.			Evergreen	Light	Light				
Colorado Spruce	30-50 ft.	20-30 ft.			Evergreen	Seldom	Seldom				
White Fir	30-50 ft.	15-25 ft.			Evergreen	Seldom	Seldom				

Trees that	<i>mature</i>	at a heigl	ht of over 45	feet shou	uld be planted 50 feet from	power lii	nes.
Species	Height	Width	Flower Color	Fruit Color	Foliage Color	Insects (Potential	Disease Problems)
Columnar Norway Maple	50-60 ft.	15-20 ft.			Yellow in Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Autumn Flame Red Maple	45-55 ft.	45-55 ft.			Red in Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Red Sunset Red Maple	50-60 ft.	40-50 ft.	Red	Red	Orange/Red In Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Green Mountain Sugar Maple	50-70 ft.	40-60 ft.			Yellow/Red In Fall	Light	Potentially Severe
Yellowwood	35-50 ft.	40-55 ft.	White		Golden Yellow In Fall	Light	Light
Autumn Puple Ash	50-60 ft.	45-55 ft.			Burgundy	Seldom	Seldom
Ginkgo	50-80 ft.	40-80 ft.			Golden Yellow in Fall	Light	Light
Skyline Locust	65-75 ft.	55-65 ft.			Golden Yellow in Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Tulip Tree	70-90 ft.	35-50 ft.	Yellow		Golden Yellow in Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Greenspire							
Littleleaf Linden		35-50 ft.	Yellow			Seldom	Seldom
Bald Cypress	60-80 ft.	20-45 ft.			Orange/Rusty In Fall	Light	Light
Northern Red Oak	60-80 ft.	45-65 ft.			Red/Golden In Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Shingle Oak	40-50 ft.	30-35 ft.			Yellow in Fall	Seldom	Seldom
Heritage River							
Birch	40-50 ft.	30-35 ft.			Yellow in Fall	Seldom	Seldom

