

LINEs, LIMBS & THE LANDSCAPE



SECTION 1 | LINES & LIMBS

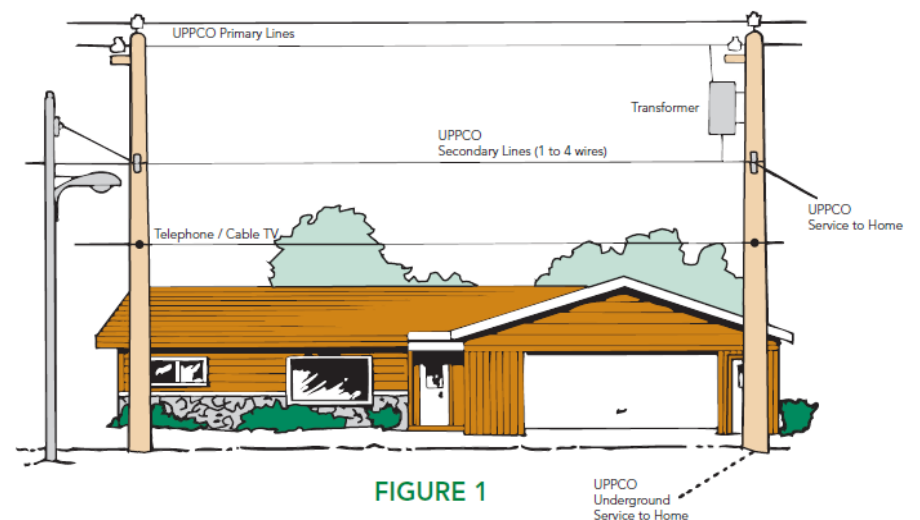
INTRODUCTION

Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) understands that you depend on safe, reliable electric service. That's why it's critical to keep trees clear of power lines. When trees come into contact with electrical lines, they can cause power outages, fires, and other serious safety hazards.

Trees are responsible for approximately 30% of all service interruptions on UPPCO's distribution system, which includes about 4,468 miles of power lines through some of the most rugged territory in the U.P.

To improve reliability, UPPCO invests, annually, in line clearance operations. Since 2020, we have trimmed vegetation along more than 1,800 miles of overhead lines as part of this effort.

Utility poles often carry multiple lines serving different functions, such as electric, telephone, and cable television. The top lines are primary electric lines carrying 4,000 to 25,000 volts and are not insulated. Below those are secondary lines carrying up to 600 volts. The line connected to your home is the service wire, typically carrying 240 volts. Telephone and cable lines are usually the lowest on the pole. All overhead and underground lines—regardless of type—should be considered dangerous and potentially life-threatening if contacted.



PRIMARY CLEARING REQUIREMENTS

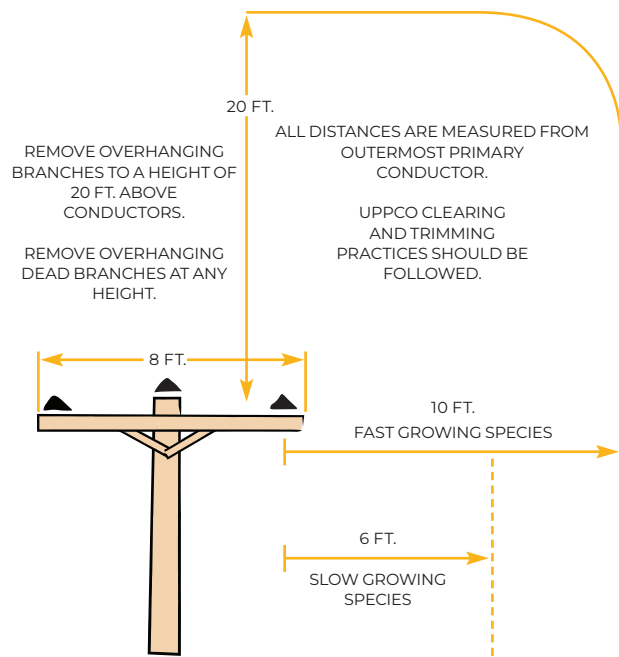


FIGURE 2

UPPCO trims trees away from power lines on a regular schedule, called a “trim cycle,” every six years. The line clearance work is done for UPPCO by companies with specialized equipment and trained personnel. There are clearance requirements that these contractors must follow to ensure that trees or tree branch growth don’t interfere with electric service prior to the next trimming cycle. (See Figure 2)

UPPCO uses a method of natural or directional pruning, which is established by the International Society of Arboriculture and recommended by professional foresters as the best method for maintaining tree health. We direct line clearance contract crews to use natural trimming techniques to prune trees. We also instruct the line clearance crews to remove trees that have fast-growing sprouts and weak wood, because they pose safety and reliability risks. Other trees that are diseased or structurally weakened can be a hazard to the electric line and should be removed. This may include trees off of UPPCO's right of way that pose significant threat to safety as determined by the utility.

Poplar, elm, willow, box elder and silver maple are common examples of this type of tree. Other trees that are diseased or structurally weakened can be a hazard to the electric line and should be removed.

The line clearance contract crews employed by UPPCO will contact you to explain planned trimming on your property. We appreciate your cooperation.

SECTION 2 | LINES & LANDSCAPING

Shrubs and trees, both deciduous and evergreens, enhance the overall appearance of a home and provide shade in the summer and protection from the icy winds of winter. A properly designed landscape offers many benefits beyond enhancing the appearance of your property; safe and reliable electric service is one of them.

A successful landscape design starts with careful thought. Figure 3 shows how an overhead electric line should fit in with the design plan by providing the proper separation of trees from overhead electric lines. Planning ahead will help ensure long-lasting beauty of the trees you select for your property.

Think Ahead Before You Plant Plant AWAY From Power Lines

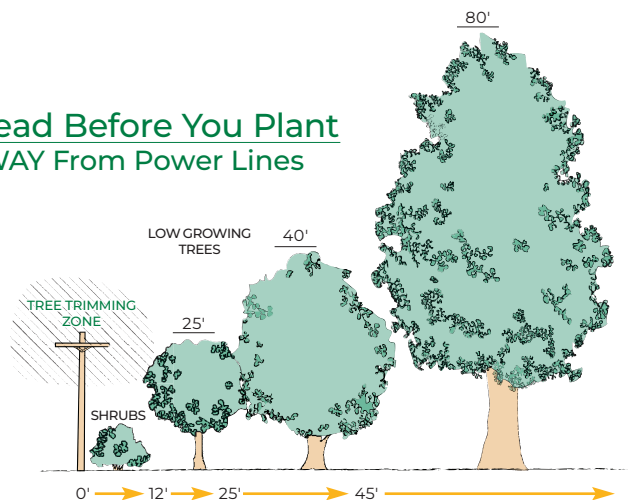


FIGURE 3

The plants listed in Section 4 are hardy for locations throughout our service territory. Some plants prefer certain locations in the landscape and certain soil types. For more information and recommendations, consult your local library, city forester, county horticulturist or local nursery specialist.

Call UPPCO before you cut down any trees or tree limbs near electric lines. Touching a tree limb that is in contact with an electric line is extremely hazardous and life-threatening. We will assist you to ensure the job is done safely.

SECTION 3 | UNDERGROUND LINES

Although underground electric lines are out of sight, they still require dedicated space for safe access and maintenance. Planting trees or shrubs directly above these lines is not recommended, as future work may be needed. To ensure proper access, maintain an eight-foot-wide clear zone centered over the underground line.

Ground-mounted transformers, which reduce high-voltage electricity to a level safe for household use, also need clearance. Keep a minimum of eight feet of open space in front of the transformer (on the side marked with the "DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE" sign) free of vines, shrubs, and trees to allow safe maintenance.

SECTION 4 | POWER LINE FRIENDLY

SHRUBS (4' - 10' IN HEIGHT) 0' - 12' DISTANCE FROM LINE

COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	FORM
Ames Juniper	10'	Pyramidal
Arrowwood Viburnum	10'	Vase
Black Chokecherry	5'	Suckers
Common Witchhazel	10'	Spreading
Cream Edge Dogwood	10'	Mounded
Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle	5'	Mounded
Dwarf Common Ninebark	9'	Rounded
Dwarf Japanese Yew	4'	Rounded
Early Forsythia	10'	Mounded
Fragrant Sumac	8'	Mounded
Mint Julep Juniper	4'	Spreading
Red Chokeberry	10'	Erect
Red Osier Dogwood	9'	Spreading



**KNOW
WHAT'S
BELOW.
CALL BEFORE
YOU DIG.**

IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDER

Striking buried electric, telephone, or gas lines while digging can cause serious injury or death. Before beginning any digging project, **including planting trees or shrubs, call MISS DIG at 811 or 800-482-7171.** Be sure to call at least three working days in advance to have underground utilities marked.



PLANT SMALL TREES (6' - 20' IN HEIGHT) 12' - 24' DISTANCE FROM LINE

COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	FORM
Shrubs		
American Hazelnut	12'	Rounded
Blackhaw Viburnum	15'	Spreading
Eur. Cranberrybush Viburnum	12'	Upright
Gray Dogwood	15'	Erect
Many-Flowered Cottoneaster	12'	Mounded
Nannyberry Viburnum	15'	Upright
Pagoda Dogwood	20'	Spreading
Trees		
American Hornbeam	15' - 18'	Spreading
Amur Maalikia	12' - 20'	Round
Amur Maple	15' - 18'	Round
Cockspur Hawthorn	15' - 18'	Spreading
Dogwood	6' - 15'	Round
Eastern Redbud	12' - 18'	Spreading
Flowering Crabapples	15' - 20'	Several
Freedom Honeysuckle	8' - 10'	Spreading
Japanese Tree Lilac	15' - 20'	Upright
Juniper	15' - 20'	Pyramidal
Magnolia	8' - 12'	Pyramidal
Mugo Pine	12' - 15'	Round
Plum	10' - 12'	Oval
Japanese Maple	15' - 20'	Round

PLANT MEDIUM TREES (20' - 45' IN HEIGHT) 24' - 48' DISTANCE FROM LINE

COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	FORM
Three-Flowered Maple	25' - 30'	Upright
American Arborvitae	20' - 30'	Pyramidal
Amur Chokecherry	20' - 30'	Round
Callery Pear	25' - 45'	Pyramidal
Hophornbeam	30' - 35'	Pyramidal
Laurel Willow	20' - 40'	Round
Ohio Buckeye	20' - 40'	Round
Sargent Cherry	20' - 40'	Spreading
Serviceberry	20' - 25'	Spreading
Swiss Stone Pine	25' - 35'	Pyramidal
Ussurian Pear	25' - 35'	Spreading
Washington Hawthorn	20' - 30'	Upright
Yellowwood	25' - 40'	Round

**Careful planning
when planting trees
can prevent future
safety hazards
around power lines.**



PLANT LARGE TREES (30' - 70' IN HEIGHT) GREATER THAN 48' FROM LINE

COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	FORM
American Beech	40' - 60'	Oval
Birch	40' - 70'	Pyramidal
Blue Spruce	30' - 60'	Pyramidal
Canada Hemlock	40' - 60'	Pyramidal
Cork tree	30' - 50'	Round
Ginkgo	40' - 60'	Columnar
Hackberry	40' - 60'	Vase
Honeylocust	40' - 60'	Upright
Kentucky Coffee tree	50' - 70'	Upright
Larch	40' - 70'	Pyramidal
Littleleaf Linden	35' - 50'	Pyramidal
Norway Maple	40' - 60'	Columnar
Oaks	50' - 70'	Round
River Birch	30' - 60'	Vase
Sugar Maple	40' - 70'	Round
White Fir	30' - 50'	Pyramidal

NOTE: For information about shrub/tree species not listed, contact your local nursery.

TIPS FOR PLANTING

Your local nursery is an excellent resource for obtaining planting materials and, if requested, will plant the shrub/tree they supply. If you choose to plant your own, the following tips should be helpful:

1. **Protect your plants before planting.** Take care not to injure tree branches and stems when moving. If the tree is balled in burlap, gently pick it up by the ball to avoid injuring fine roots. Keep all roots covered, moist and out of direct sunlight.

2. **Prepare a planting site.** The planting site/hole should be three times the root spread or ball diameter. Plant the tree at the same depth it was at the nursery, which would have the tree's root collar at grade.

3. **Fertilization.** Only fertilize in the planting hole if you use very slow release micropore packets. Follow-up fertilization should only be done lightly, broadcast, low in nitrogen and after the first growing season.

4. **Mulch.** Maintain a layer of 2 to 4 inches over the entire planting site for the first several growing seasons, indefinitely if possible.

5. **Pruning.** Only prune at planting time if you need to remove damaged branches causing serious structural problems.

6. **Staking.** Avoid staking if you can. If you must stake, use flexible bindings and wide straps around the trunk. Remove after one growing season.

7. **Water.** Water well at planting time to eliminate air pockets in the soil. In the first growing season, keep the soil moist but not saturated.





Powering Communities

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