



Tall-growing trees that come in contact with power lines can present a safety risk to people and animals. Most of the time, it will interrupt your power. Every year trees that grow into power lines cause more than 70,000 hours of outage time – an inconvenience that can be avoided.

FortisAlberta has an extensive tree and brush clearing program which helps to avoid safety hazards associated with contacts to power lines. However, it is important that customers realize the importance of planting tall-growing trees a safe distance from electrical equipment.

It is very important that customers plant new tall-growing trees at least eight metres from power lines. Trees planted near higher voltage transmission lines require even greater clearances.

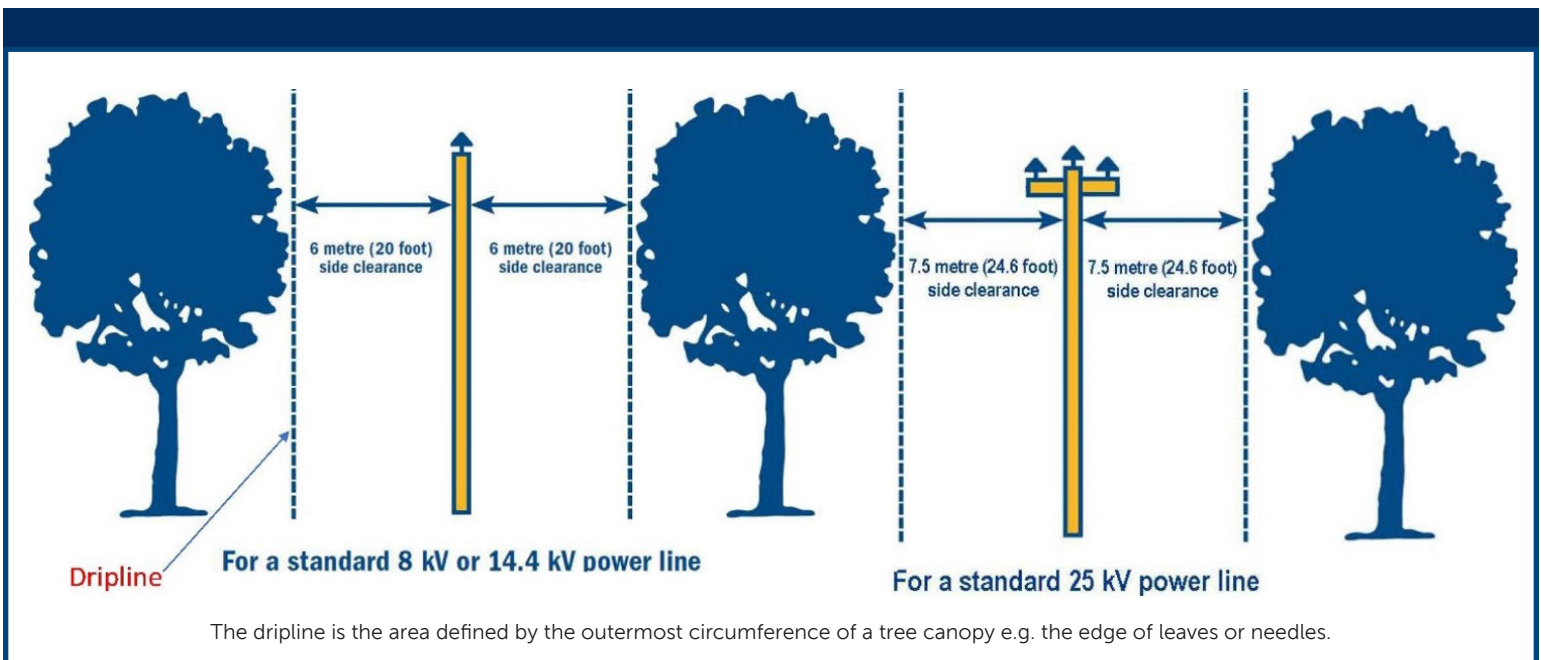
Trees are an investment and it is important that trees are safe, now and in the future. Nip tomorrow's problems in the bud by planting trees in safe locations today – and keep your investment growing.

## WHERE CAN I BRUSH OR CLEAR VEGETATION?

You can only brush or clear vegetation on land that you own. You cannot complete brushing on road allowance, crown land, or your neighbour's land. In these cases, we are happy to help.

## WHAT ARE MY LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY RESPONSIBILITIES?

A property owner is required to comply with all federal, provincial, and municipal legislation, regulations, acts, and bylaws, as applicable. These include but are not limited to Alberta's Water Act, the Alberta Historical Resources Act, Alberta Wildlife Act, and the Migratory Bird Convention Act. The customer should also minimize potential adverse effects to wildlife and habitats that may result from brushing.



## WHAT IF THERE ARE POWER LINES ALREADY ON MY LAND?

If there are power lines within **seven metres (7.0m)** of the proposed vegetation removal area you will need to get an Overhead Power Line Orientation from FortisAlberta to ensure that safe limits of approach are maintained. To get this orientation, please call us at **310-WIRE (9473)**.

## WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR FINAL SITE PRESENTATION?

- FortisAlberta has the standard of cutting stumps as low and flat to the ground as possible, with stumps being no higher than ankle height (10 cm, 4 inches).
- All debris must be removed from the right-of-way. This includes branches, limbs, and firewood. Please remember that FortisAlberta and our Contractors must be able to safely access the area to install, operate and maintain the power line as required.
- Not only does the right-of-way need to be cleared of vegetation, but a path to the right-of-way will also need to be established.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

FortisAlberta implements an integrated vegetation management plan to ensure the safe and reliable operation of our power lines. By setting up the power line right-of-way to our standards, it sets us up to keep the lights on long-term and limits the need for repetitive and on-going vegetation management work.

## WHAT IF MY WORK DOESN'T MEET THE STANDARDS?

If FortisAlberta must send out a local team to complete the work to our standards, you may be financially responsible, in which case we will let you know. Once payment is received, **FortisAlberta will schedule the work required and mobilize a crew.**

## DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING ONCE THE BRUSHING IS COMPLETE?

We ask you e-Mail the FortisAlberta brushing team at [brushing@fortisalberta.com](mailto:brushing@fortisalberta.com) to let us know that the brushing is complete. We would like to add a follow up herbicide treatment as part of our Integrated Vegetation Management plan. By targeting tall growing species with herbicide, we can allow compatible vegetation to establish underneath the power line.

Kindly provide the following information when emailing your completed work:

- First and Last Name, with Contact Information (Phone Number and Email)
- Legal Land Description and Address

## CAN I REPLANT VEGETATION ONCE THE POWER LINE IS BUILT?

Yes, but be mindful of the selection of vegetation planted near a power line. See the planting guide to choose compatible vegetation or plant tall growing vegetation (e.g. pine, spruce or poplar) at least 8m away from the power line. This is to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the power line. **Right Tree, Right Place.**

## Hedge Material Suitable for Planting Near a Power Line:

Tree Name		Height at Maturity
Caragana**	Common	3 m (10 ft)
	Globe	1 m (3 ft)
	Pygmy	1 m (3 ft)
Cherry**	Nanking	2 m (7 ft)
Cotoneaster**	Hedge	2 m (7 ft)
Cranberry**	Nannyberry	5 m (16 ft)
	Wayfaring Tree	3 m (10 ft)
Dogwood**	Red Osier	2 m (7 ft)
Honeysuckle**	Clavey's Dwarf	1 m (3 ft)
	Tartarian	3 m (10 ft)
	Zabel's	2 m (7 ft)
Lilac**	Common	3 m (10 ft)
	Late	3 m (10 ft)
Pricepia**		3 m (10 ft)
Potentilla		1 m (3 ft)

\*\*suitable for planting in Chinook Region.

For information on tree planting and pruning, contact your local nursery or garden centre.

### Caution:

*May plant near a power line\**

Tree Name	Height at Maturity
Pincherry (Prunus pensylvanica)	5 m (16 ft)
Western chokecherry (Prunus virginiana Melanocarpa)**	5 m (16 ft)
Black cherry (Prunus serotina)	6 m (20 ft)
Tartarian maple (Acer tataricum)**	6 m (20 ft)
Amur maple (Acer ginnala)**	4 m (13 ft)
Flowering crabapples (Malus baccata)**	5 m (16 ft)
Hawthorns (Crataegus sp.)**	5 m (16 ft)
Showy mountain ash (Sorbus decora)**	5 m (16 ft)
Green's mountain ash (Sorbus scopulina)	5 m (16 ft)
French pussy-willow (Salix caprea)**	5 m (16 ft)
Mugo pine (Pinus Mugo rostrata)**	6 m (20 ft)
Pyramidal white cedar (Thuja o "Pyramidalis)	5 m (16 ft)
Montgomery blue spruce (Picea pungens "Montgomery")	3 m (10 ft)
Caragana (Caragana arborescens)**	3 m (10 ft)
Hedge cotoneaster (Cotoneaster lucidus)**	2 m (7 ft)
Highbush cranberry (Viburnum trilobum)**	3 m (10 ft)
Nannyberry (Viburnum Lentago)**	5 m (16 ft)
Dogwood (Cornus sp.)**	3 m (10 ft)
Elder (Sambucus sp.)**	4 m (13 ft)
Honeysuckle (Lonicera sp.)**	3 m (10 ft)
Lilac (Syringa sp.)**	5 m (16 ft)
Saskatoon (Amerlanichier alnifolia)	4 m (13 ft)

\* May require trimming under most favourable soil and climatic conditions.

\*\* Suitable for planting in Chinook region.

## Do Not Plant within eight metres of a power line:

Tree Name	Height at Maturity
Trembling aspen (Populus tremuloides)	18 m (60 ft)
Balsam poplar (Populus balsamifera)	20 m (65 ft)
Northwest poplar (Populus x. "Northwest")	20 m (65 ft)
Plains cottonwood (Populous deltoids)	30 m (90 ft)
White spruce (Picea glauca)	15 m (50 ft)
Blue spruce (Picea p. "Glauca")	15 m (50 ft)
Manitoba maple (Acer Negundo)	14 m (45 ft)
Laurel leaved willow (Salix pentandra)	15 m (50 ft)
Golden leaved willow (Salix alba vitellina)	15 m (50 ft)
Sharp leaf willow (Salix acutifolia)	10 m (35 ft)
Green ash (Fraxinus pensylvanica "lanceolata")	15 m (50 ft)
Patmore green ash (Fraxinum pensylvanica "Patmore")	15 m (50 ft)
American elm (Ulmus americana)	20 m (65 ft)
Brandon elm (Ulmus Americana "Brandon")	15 m (50 ft)
Siberian elm (Ulmus pumila)	12 m (40 ft)
Paper birch (Betula papyrifera)	12 m (40 ft)
European white birch (Betula pendula)	12 m (40 ft)
Cut-leaved weeping birch (Betula pendula "Gracilis")	20 m (65 ft)
Slender weeping birch (Betula pendula "Tristis")	12 m (40 ft)

For more information on tree-to-tree power line clearances call FortisAlberta at 310-WIRE (9473).

