

Planting Trees Near Overhead Electric Power Lines

As everyone knows, trees are a wonderful addition to your landscape. They keep you cool in the hot summer sun. They make a great place to hang a tire swing for your children. They also provide food and cover for a wide variety of wildlife. As wonderful as trees are they don't get along well with overhead power lines, at least most of them don't.

While your Electric Utility does not encourage planting trees near overhead power lines there are times when it is unavoidable. These include:

1. Local ordinances require the planting of trees to replace ones that were removed during construction of a new home or business.
2. You want to plant a tree in memory of a loved one but you have a small yard with power lines running across the front of it.
3. You and your children just want to plant a tree to celebrate Arbor Day.

To handle these types of situations the City's Electric Utility Forester has developed a list of trees that are "power-line friendly". This means that they can grow to maturity without needing to be pruned away from the main electric lines along the street. Some of these suggested trees provide color to your yard, food for the birds, some can be used to screen off unsightly areas, and some can even help conserve energy.

So when you get ready to plant a tree in your yard, be sure to look up first. If power lines are close choose from the list below. For questions about this list or other tree related issues contact your Electric Utility Forester at: Perry.Odom@talgov.com

Recommended Trees For Planting Near Overhead Electric Power Lines

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Southern Flowering Crabapple 2. Tree Sparkleberry 3. Fringe Tree 4. Washington Hawthorne 5. Possum Haw 6. Japanese Maple var. "Blood Good" 7. May Hawthorne (Mayhaw) 8. Red Buckeye 9. Crepe Myrtles: Choose from the following varieties: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. white - "Acoma" or "Burgundy Cotton" b. purple - "Catawba" or "Zuni" c. pink - "Sioux", "Hopi", or "Pink Velour" d. red - "Tonto", "Cheyenne" or "Arapahoe" e. lavender - "Yuma" 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. "Star" Magnolia 11. Chickasaw Plum 12. Yellow Anise 13. Burford Holly 14. Nelly R Stevens Holly 15. Weeping Yaupon Holly 16. Tea Olive 17. Wax Myrtle 18. Salt Bush 19. Confederate Rose 20. Rusty Black Haw
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