

PLANT the right way

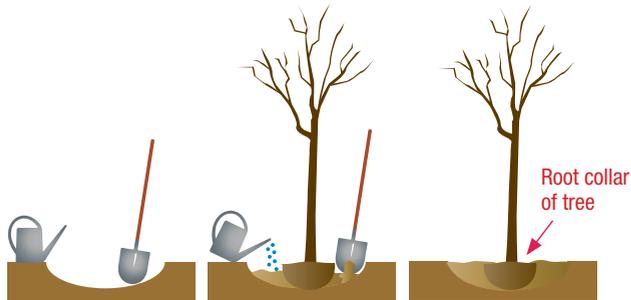
1. Dig the hole for planting two to three times the width and the same depth as the ball or container.
2. Before lowering trees into the planting hole:

For balled and burlapped trees, place the root ball in the hole. Remove burlap, twine and wires.

For container trees, remove the tree and straighten any coiled roots. Loosen the root ball.

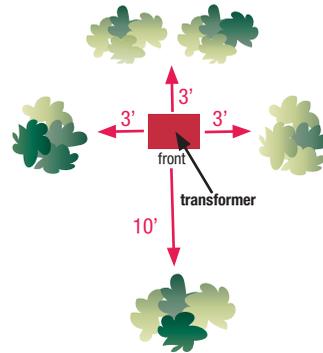
For bare-root trees, prune damaged or circling roots and plant during the dormant season. Keep roots covered before planting. Spread the roots and cover with soil, except in high clay or sand conditions.

3. Fill the planting hole with soil, covering the root ball. Avoid using soil additives like peat moss or composted organic material, except in soils heavy with clay or sand.
4. Water well. Soak the root ball and surrounding soil. Repeat in three days.
5. Mulch the area one to three inches thick, extending about two feet from the trunk. Keep the mulch away from direct contact with the lower trunk. Stakes can be used, however, it is best to stake only when necessary, as it may result in a weaker trunk and root system. Use strips of fabric or burlap, not wires or ties, to secure the stake to the tree. Remove stakes after the first year of growth.



Planting near pad-mounted transformers or cabinets

Be sure to allow the correct distance from pad-mounted transformers when planting trees or other vegetation.



The minimum distance required when planting near pad-mounted transformers is 3 feet of space on sides and back of transformer and 10 feet of space in front of the transformer (padlock side).

Tips for safe planting around pad-mounted transformers

- Remember the transformer must be accessible for service at all times.
- Select plants that are easily maintained and suitable for the site.
- Allow plants sufficient growing room.
- Do not allow plantings to grow over the transformer.
- Do not change grade levels around pad-mounted transformers.

Contact us

If you have any questions or need assistance, contact ECE Forestry Services at **1-866-293-9068** or visit www.eastcentralenergy.com.

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PLANT WISELY



Your wise decision will support the growth of easily maintained, healthy trees.



East Central Energy

Great service - guaranteed

PLAN before you plant

Choosing the right tree

You can help minimize tree-related outages and ensure reliable electric service for the future by choosing the right species of trees. Consider the trees' mature height and crown spread, especially when planting adjacent to overhead power lines.

Your wise decision now will support the growth of easily maintained, healthy trees and minimize future removal of mature trees. When you select trees, consider how you plan to use the site, as well as area safety needs.

Energy conservation

When planting trees near buildings, look for opportunities to shield against hot summer sun and cold winter winds. If there are no utilities nearby, planting deciduous trees to the west and east of a building will help cool it in the summer and provide solar heating benefits in the winter. Evergreen trees along the north side can also help reduce heat loss from cold winter winds.

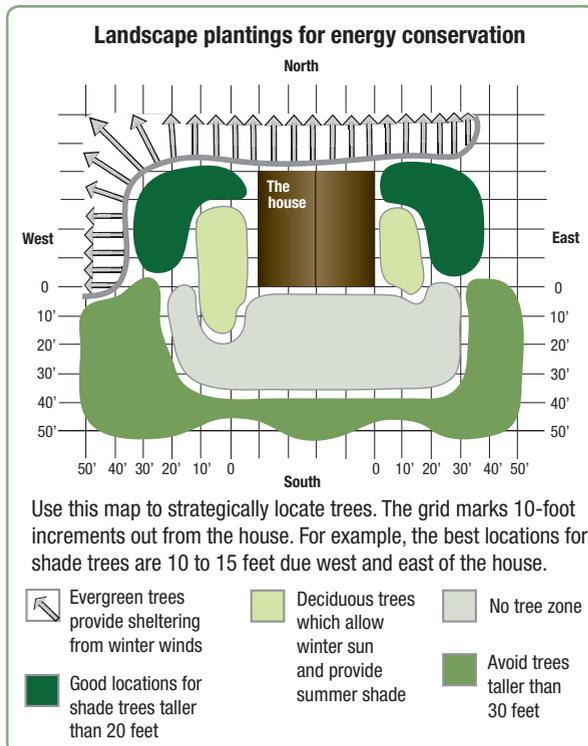
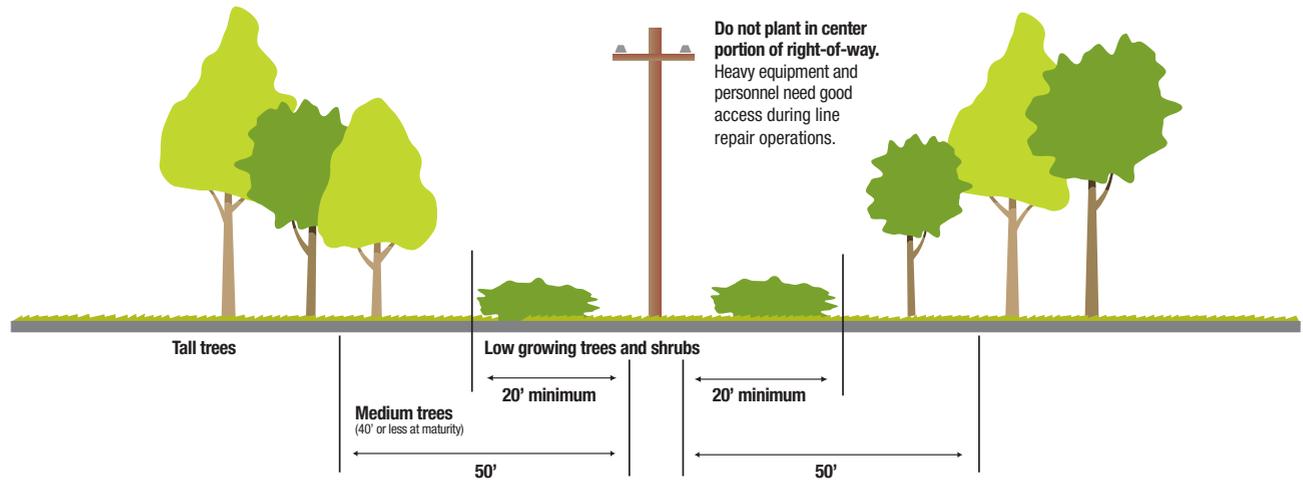


Diagram source: Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Information Center



Compatible species near overhead utility lines

Low growing trees or shrubs (15 ft. or less at maturity)

Limit the number of plantings to provide adequate access for future maintenance.

Shrubs

- Azalea
- Purpleleaf Cherry
- Chokeberry
- Cotoneaster
- Red Twigged Dogwood
- Elderberry
- Forsythia
- Hazelnut
- Common Purple Lilac
- Mock Orange
- Ninebark
- Regent Serviceberry
- Rhododendron
- Smokebush
- Snowberry
- Spirea
- Sumac
- Viburnum
- Weigela
- Winterberry
- Witchhazel

Trees

- Selected Crabapples (Pink Spires, Firebird, Lancelot, Luisa)
 - Coralburst, Red Jewel, Tina)
 - Euonymus Winged Tree
 - Fringe Tree
 - Gray Dogwood
 - Hydrangea Tree Form
 - Miss Kim Lilac
 - Russian Hawthorn
 - Sensation Lilac
 - Viburnum Tree
- Also, most dwarf apple, pear, plum and cherry trees are acceptable.

Evergreen trees & shrubs

- Alberta Spruce
- Aurea Compacta Hemlock
- Blue Shag Pine
- Clanbrassiliana Spruce
- DeGroots Spire Arborvitae
- Dwarf Blue Spruce
- Emerald Fountain Hemlock
- Holmstrup Arborvitae
- Japanese Yew
- Macopin Pine
- Mugho Pine
- North Star Spruce
- Sherwood Compact Spruce
- Swiss Stone Pine 'Silver Whisper'
- Techny Arborvitae
- Yellow Ribbon Arborvitae

Call before you dig

To locate underground utilities contact:

Gopher State One Call:
(Minnesota) 1-800-252-1166 or 811
two business days ahead

Digger's Hotline:
(Wisconsin) 1-800-242-8511 or 811
three business days ahead