

QUICK GUIDE & CONTACT INFORMATION:

Homeowners



PRUNING TREES AROUND POWERLINES

- ☑ Locate overhead powerlines before trimming or pruning trees
- ☑ Contact your LDC to remove, prune and trim trees around overhead powerlines.
 - ➔ Your LDC has the legal responsibility to trim trees around their assets and uses Utility Arborists who have been trained to prune and trim trees around powerlines.
- ☑ Look up! When doing tree and property maintenance
- ☑ Look out! Stay clear of overhead powerlines



Look Up! – always be aware of overhead powerlines when using ladders. Ladders should always be carried horizontally when moving them from point A to point B.



Look Up! – identify overhead powerlines near trees and shrubs and ensure you keep tools and equipment a minimum of 3.0 m (10 ft) from powerlines.

- ☑ Locate underground powerlines – prior to excavating and removing tree trunks and/or roots, contact your LDC and request a ‘locate’ to identify underground powerlines.

Allow a minimum of 2 weeks to receive all locates.

All locates must be received prior to excavation.

Private underground services are not located by the Utilities. It is the responsibility of the property owner and excavator/landscaper to locate non utility owned services.

PLANTING UNDER OR AROUND POWERLINES & ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

☑ Locate overhead powerlines – avoid potential electrical risks from:

1. **Direct contact** – when working around trees where powerlines are hidden by foliage
2. **Energized objects** – branches and limbs caught in the powerlines may unexpectedly become conductive
3. **Planting trees and shrubs too close to powerlines** – when selecting species, a landscape professional can provide advice on indentifying the best species of trees or shrubs for landscape projects near powerlines.
4. **Delivery of plant materials** – unloading of the tree(s) is not to be done under or around the overhead powerlines. Delivery equipment such as a boom truck can come into contact with the overhead wires. The same for digging with equipment such as a high hoe, the equipment can also come into contact with the overhead wires.

☑ Locate underground powerlines prior to digging or excavating to plant trees by contacting your LDC to identify their underground powerlines. The minimum clearance required from the edge of the root ball to the edge of the underground powerline corridor is 1.0 M (3 ft) also, contact other utilities, such as natural gas, water, cable and telephone, to ensure you are aware of their underground equipment and clearance requirements.

Allow a minimum of 2 weeks to receive all locates. All locates must be received prior to excavation.

☑ Electrical equipment – minimum clearance when planting near pad mounted equipment:

- **TRANSFORMERS** - 3.0 M (10 ft) is required in front of the door(s) and 1.5 M (4.9 Ft) on the sides and back
- **SWITCHGEAR** - 3.0 M (10 ft) is required in the front and back doors and 1.5 M (4.9 Ft) on the sides

☑ Check municipal, regional and township by-laws for specifications

☑ Check with the LDC for their planting requirements under or around overhead powerlines and electrical equipment including underground powerlines

☑ Check with the LDC to identify easements that might apply