

## **Plant the Right Tree** in the Right Place

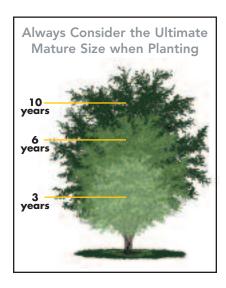
When planting, please consider where the tree will be located in relation to overhead and underground utility lines. (The location of these lines should determine the kind of tree to plant and site selection.) The mature tree must have enough space away from power lines and in an area large enough to accommodate the canopy and root system.

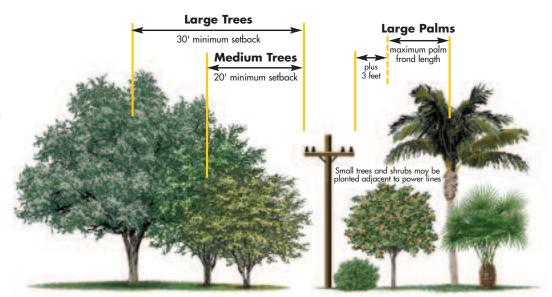
Planting tall growing trees under or near power lines will ultimately require pruning



to maintain safe clearance from the wires. Trees toppling into overhead power lines can become a public safety hazard and disrupt your electric service. Therefore it is best not to plant tall growing trees under or near power lines.

You should not attempt to trim any vegetation growing near or on any overhead power lines. Only specially trained line clearing professionals should work around power lines.





Trees Shown at Mature Height

### **Recommended Trees for** North/Central Florida:

These trees would be suitable for planting adjacent to overhead distribution powerlines



(Chionanthus virginicus) Spring flowers before leafing out. Known as old man's beard. Cold hardy.

Growth Rate: Slow Maturity Height x Spread: 15-20' x 10-15' Foliage: Deciduous

#### Crape Myrtle

(Lagerstroemia indicia) Flowers in many colors; blooms from late spring to fall. Cold hardy.

Growth Rate: Rapid Maturity Height x Spread: 10-30' x 15-25' Foliage: Deciduous



#### Wax Myrtle

(Myrica cerifera) Excellent understory tree with spreading growth habit. Used for screening; attracts wildlife. Cold hardy.

Growth Rate: Slow Maturity Height x Spread: 15-20' x 15-20' Foliage: Evergreen



#### Japanese Privet

(Ligustrum japonicum) Dense-canopied, with multiple trunks. Excellent specimen tree. Cold hardy.

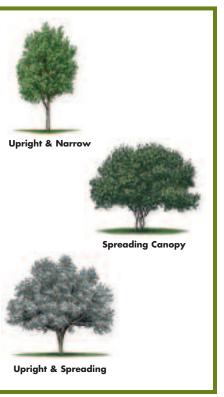
Growth Rate: Moderate Maturity Height x Spread: 12-20' x 15-25' Foliage: Evergreen



# Large Trees Need Their Space So That They Do Not Interfere With Power Lines

Here's a list of some canopy trees often seen in North/Central Florida. These large, canopy trees need their space. If you plant a canopy tree on your property please follow these guidelines:

Common Name	Height x Spread	Setback from Power Line	Tree Shape
Bald Cypress	60-80' x 25-30'	30'	Upright & narrow
Chinese Elm	40-50' x 35-50'	30'	Spreading canopy
Live Oak	60-80' x 60 plus feet	30'	Spreading canopy
Shumard Oak	60-80' x 40-50'	30'	Spreading canopy
Slash Pine	35-50' x 30-40'	30'	Upright & slightly spreading
Southern Magnolia	60-80' x 30-40'	30'	Upright & spreading
Southern Redcedar	30-40' x 20-30'	30'	Upright & spreading
Sweetbay Magnolia	40-50' x 15-25'	30'	Upright & narrow
Sweetgum	60-75' x 40-50'	30'	Upright & slightly spreading
Sycamore	75-90' x 60-70'	30'	Upright & spreading
Winged Elm	45-70' x 30-40'	30'	Upright & spreading
American Holly	35-50' x 15-25'	30'	Upright & slightly spreading
Pecan	70-100' x 50-60'	30'	Spreading canopy
Red Maple	60-70' x 40-40'	30'	Upright & spreading

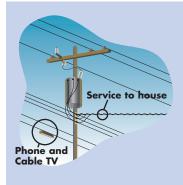


Thanks to the Florida Urban Forestry Council for providing information for this publication. Visit the Florida Urban Forestry Council web site at www.fufc.org.

#### **Problem Trees**

Non-native problem trees can cause conflicts when planted adjacent to or under overhead power lines. These trees may be prohibited in some municipalities. Any fast, tall-growing tree that could ultimately reach the power lines could cause a problem. Some examples include:

- Australian Pine
- Brazilian Pepper
- Chinese Tallow
- Ficus
- Melaleuca
- Tree Bamboo



Electric lines usually are located at the top of the pole, farthest from the ground. Cable TV and telephone lines run closer to the ground, below power lines.

Make sure there are no buried wires before digging in the spot for your new tree.

Customers are asked to call Sunshine State One Call at 1-800-432-4770 before digging in an area with underground services. Within 2 full business days of notice a utility representative will inspect the property



www.callsunshine.com

to locate and mark any buried wires. There is no charge for this service.

Visit www.FPL.com/trees for a list of FPL qualified tree contractors who can help you maintain your trees and keep them clear of power lines. Find out about many other energy topics by visiting www.FPL.com.