Transmission Right-of-Way Activities in Agricultural Lands

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission line rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Where transmission lines span agricultural lands, we work closely with property owners to protect their farmland while maintaining the right-of-way for utility transmission and distribution uses. On Eversource-owned property, we also consider licensing portions of our property to farmers for agricultural or other purposes.

As we improve our transmission system to better serve customers, we may need to temporarily work in croplands and pasturelands located within rights-of-way. In some instances, this may affect ongoing agricultural activities in and around the rights-of-way. While easement agreements typically grant us rights to clear vegetation that may interfere with construction, operation or maintenance of the transmission system, we are committed to being good neighbors and partners. As such, when we undertake transmission system improvements, we will work closely with landowners, licensees and stakeholders to minimize agricultural impacts.

Some of our routine practices include:

Scheduling Considerations

Whenever possible, Eversource makes reasonable efforts to coordinate the schedule of construction-related activities around the growing and harvest seasons to minimize the impacts on agricultural operations. When this is not possible, we pursue reasonable measures to mitigate any impacts.

Restoration of Disturbed or Compacted Soils

Eversource recognizes that disturbed soils, or soils compacted by heavy construction equipment, may affect the soil's ability to support certain agricultural activities. We take reasonable steps to avoid or minimize soil compaction, and will restore soils that are compacted by construction equipment. We also work with affected landowners to determine the appropriate method for restoring the soils, and are open to discussing and implementing the landowners' alternative restoration suggestions.

After a transmission system improvement is complete, Eversource removes all construction-related equipment and debris from the right-of-way.

Soil Preservation and Erosion Controls

Eversource will implement all required and other reasonable efforts for soil preservation and erosion controls in compliance with all applicable permits and good utility practices. These practices are designed to minimize or eliminate potential adverse environmental effects that may result from construction activities. Examples of these mitigation measures include the use of hay bales and silt fences.

continued >

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Excess Soil Removal

After the installation of a transmission system structure is complete, soil material that was excavated to enable the structure installation will be used as backfill. The remaining excavated sub-surface soils will be removed from the site unless otherwise requested by the landowner.

Right-of-Way Restoration

After construction is complete, Eversource is responsible for importing clean fill to ensure that cropland or pastureland is restored. We work with landowners to determine an appropriate method for restoring the surface soils, including the appropriate seed mix, to restore pasturelands to their pre-construction condition.

Addressing Damage to Property or Other Losses

Eversource works closely with landowners to develop and implement construction and maintenance methods that minimize or prevent property damage or other losses that may occur as a result of these activities. If a landowner believes that transmission system improvements have caused property damage or other losses, the owner should contact their Eversource project representative, account executive or customer service representative by calling 800-286-2000 in Connecticut, 800-662-7764 in New Hampshire, 877-659-6326 in western Massachusetts and 800-592-2000 in eastern Massachusetts. Eversource will investigate the claim and the landowner will be advised as soon as practical as to our position concerning the acceptance or denial of a claim.

Eversource is committed to working with landowners before, during and after transmission construction on transmission rights-of-way. Our intent is to minimize or avoid any adverse impacts or inconveniences during construction and/or maintenance activities.

EVERSOURCE

For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

April 2015 LM0415

Comment Cards

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

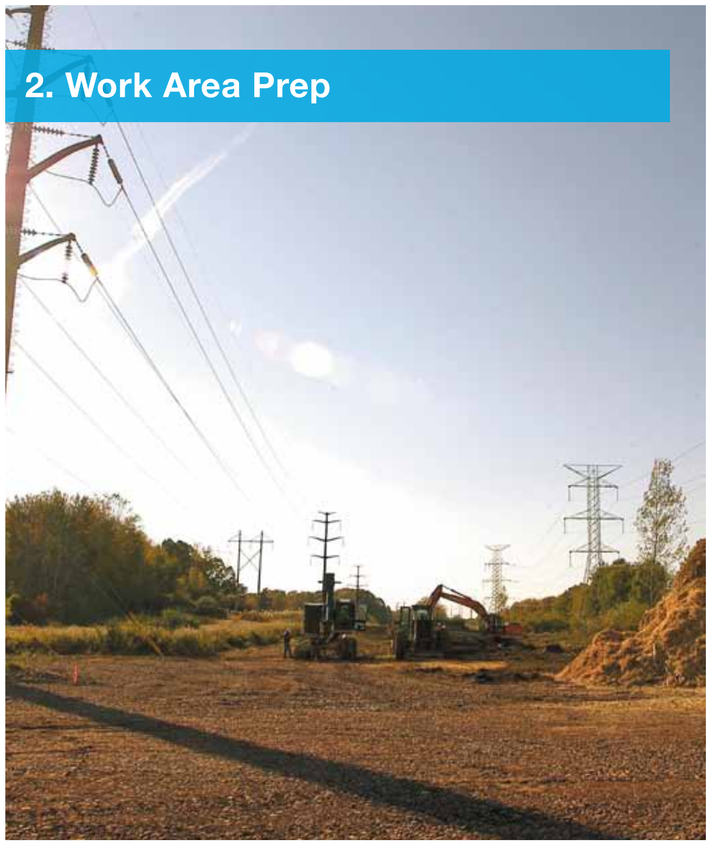
Please provide your comments on the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your comments will be shared with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officials.

Typical Overhead Construction

1. Right Of Way Clearing

2. Work Area Prep



3. Structure Foundation Installation

4. New Structure Installation

5. Wire Stringing

6. Restoration

Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

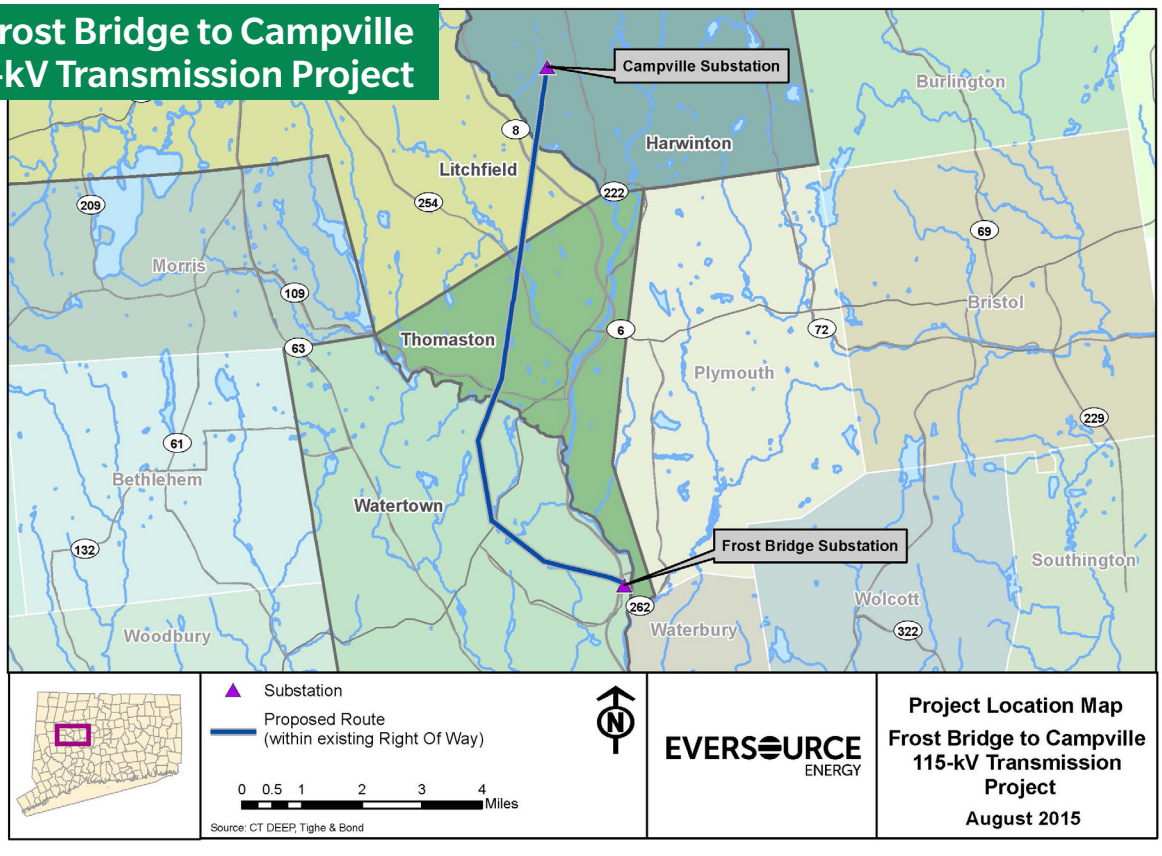
Meeting Electric System Reliability Needs in Northwest Connecticut

Project Need:
To provide reliable, cost-effective and environmentally sound improvements to the regional electric system, Eversource is proposing to construct a new 115-kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line and related substation upgrades. These improvements will solve voltage and thermal problems on the transmission system under certain operating conditions and bring the electric supply system in northwest Connecticut into compliance with national and regional reliability standards.

Project Description:
The new 10.4-mile line would traverse the towns of Watertown, Thomaston, Litchfield and Harwinton to connect Eversource's Frost Bridge Substation in Watertown with its Campville Substation in Harwinton. The line would be located entirely within Eversource's existing transmission line right-of-way. In addition, new equipment would be installed at both the Frost Bridge and Campville Substations. At the Campville Substation, the Project requires the expansion of the existing fence line to the east, while remaining on Eversource property. No fence line expansion is needed at Frost Bridge Substation.

We also plan to reconfigure two 115-kV lines where they cross the Naugatuck River. Currently, these lines are jointly supported on common transmission structures. The reconfiguration will allow each line to be supported by its own set of structures, thereby increasing system reliability.

Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project



Continued >

Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Project Siting/Permitting:
This Project requires a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need from the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC). Eversource will file an Application for the Project with the CSC in December 2015. Environmental permits will also be required from the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection as well as the Army Corps of Engineers. The public and all interested parties will have the opportunity to participate in the siting process through the CSC-sponsored public hearings (dates to be determined).

Community Outreach:
Eversource continues to work with local officials on the proposed Project and respond to any questions or concerns. Two regional public Open Houses are being held in late September to introduce the proposed Project to the local community, provide an opportunity for residents to speak one-on-one with Project representatives, and seek public comment on our proposal. All written comments received at the Open House will be shared with the CSC as part of our Application, and provided to town officials.

Throughout the entire process, Eversource will continue to communicate with elected and appointed officials, residents, businesses and other stakeholders to provide updates on Project milestones and respond to any questions or concerns in a timely manner.

Anticipated Project Schedule

Municipal Consultation Filing	September 2015
Public Open Houses	September 29 & 30, 2015
Application Filing with the CSC	December 2015
CSC Public Hearings	To Be Determined (Set by the CSC)
CSC Decision	Fourth Quarter 2016
Pending CSC Approval, Development & Management Plan Review	Spring 2017
Start of Construction	Third Quarter 2017
Estimated In-Service Date	Late 2018

Visit our website Eversource.com, call 1-800-793-2202, or email us at TransmissionInfo@eversource.com to learn more.

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consulation Filing (MCF) for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project ?

- [x] Open House (9/29/15)
- [ ] Open House (9/30/15)
- [ ] Public Library
- [ ] Other _____

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your Comments:

Compensation to home owners for loss of property values.

First Name: Kevin Last Name: Kelley

Street Address: 115 Campville Rd

Town: Northfield State: CT Zip: 06778

Email Address: klk2251@gmail.com Phone: 203-568-0432

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officals. Thank you.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consulation Filing (MCF) for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project ?

- [x] Open House (9/29/15)
- [ ] Open House (9/30/15)
- [ ] Public Library
- [ ] Other _____

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your Comments:

I want to know why home owners are not getting compensated for destroying our property values with this Transmission Project.

First Name: Robert Last Name: Rourke

Street Address: 93 Campville Rd

Town: Northfield State: CT Zip: 06778

Email Address: _____ Phone: 860-283-8333

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officals. Thank you.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consulation Filing (MCF) for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project ?

- [x] Open House (9/29/15)
- [ ] Open House (9/30/15)
- [ ] Public Library
- [ ] Other _____

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your Comments:

The project was explained fully to our satisfication.
The impact on our property appears to be minimal.

First Name: Michael Last Name: Thomas

Street Address: 134 Campville Rd

Town: Northfield State: CT Zip: 06778

Email Address: methomas@optonline.net Phone: 860-283-1161

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officals. Thank you.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consulation Filing (MCF) for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project ?

- [x] Open House (9/29/15)
- [ ] Open House (9/30/15)
- [ ] Public Library
- [ ] Other _____

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your Comments:

#1. NEW STRUCTURES NOT TO EXCEED NATURAL CANOPY

#2. ANCIENT STONE WALLS NOT TO BE DISTURBED

#3 ALL USABLE WOOD NOT TO BE REMOVED FROM PROPERTY

~~#4~~

First Name: THOMASTON FISH & GAME CL. ~~Last Name:~~ JOHN CALABRESE, PRESIDENT

Street Address: 730 OLD NORTHFIELD RD

Town: THOMASTON State: CT Zip: 06787

Email Address: JOHNCALABRESE@SBCGLOBAL.NET Phone: 860-283-9070

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officals. Thank you.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

EVERSOURCE OPEN HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 29 2015

NORTHFIELD FIREHOUSE 6:00PM

The Thomaston Fish and Game Club Inc. request information or answers to the following topics.

1. Alternative to 90' monopoles. Units to be considered to be equal or only marginally higher than current canopy.

2. The existence of ancient stone walls to be undisturbed, the walls are the demarcation for a former stagecoach road.

3. All usable timber (capable of sawmill usage or firewood) not to be removed from property.

4. Possible quit claim of approx. 6 acre plot to the Fish and Game Club.

Contact:

John Calabrese, President

Thomaston Fish and Game Club.

H. 860-567-8085 C. 203-206-1901

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consulation Filing (MCF) for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project ?

- [x] Open House (9/29/15)
- [ ] Open House (9/30/15)
- [ ] Public Library
- [ ] Other _____

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your Comments:

I am at The Walnut Hill Junction. I cussently am Surrounded by Eversource Property I pay Taxes on the property That is almost Half of the Land which I cannot do Anything With That said. I am Curious if Eversource is Interested IN Purchasing the Propety. It will give me Pease of Mind and Remove Me as a stumbling block along the way. Please Provide me with Information to pursue this Avenue Thank you

First Name: Chris Last Name: Cantoni

Street Address: 448 Walnut Hill Rd. Th

Town: Thomaston State: Ct Zip: 06787

Email Address: weusthem@snet.net Phone: 860-283-6963

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officals. Thank you.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Bill & Norma Kryzanowski / Owners October 20, 2015
528 & 538 Walnut Hill Road
Thomaston, CT 06787

Project: 10.9 mile 115-KV Overhead Transmission Line Extension from Frost Bridge to Campville

Comments and Concerns:

On Sunday October 11, 2015 at 1:00 pm we met with project representatives of Eversource. We did a site walk of all parcels of property that will be impacted by this project. Please find our comments and concerns listed below. We will list our comments and concerns by Town Assessor Map Block and Lot.

21-03-01 26.34 acres

We started with the work that will be done within the original 250 foot easement as shown on the Town Assessor data base as Map 21, Block 03, Lot 01 26.34 acres. We gave a brief history on of the property and the family's usage of it for more than a century.

The lower portion of the property was always considered to be a prime building lot for family and we have been to Thomaston Planning and Zoning meetings when the land zone was changed to make sure it had no impact on future development. Our concern in this area would be the loss of a good portion of timber which will expose the new as well as original structures. We would like to see some replanting of shrubs and vegetation to help retain a buffer between the new structures and remaining property.

Another concern in this area that was discussed and documented is the "White Rock". This is in an area that has been the family picnic area for over a century. The white rock has been a recreation area where all the children played and family photos have been taken over the years. Recently a family member was engaged at the white rock. To the average person it is just a rock but to our family it is a monument of fun times with family. We have been assured this rock will be protected.

We addressed the removal of trees that need to be cut. We would like all long log length wood less the brush branches which would be chipped. All wood will be stacked in an area agreed to by both parties. It was further discussed we would like all stumps removed by the stumping process where it is chipped to below ground surface so the property can continue to be mowed and maintained as it is now.

21-02-10 8.7 acres:

In walking this area we saw no big concerns there would be some tree trimming, removal and access road widening. The only concern would be if after tree trimming or removal the possible need to replant shrub and vegetation.

528 Walnut Hill Road / 21-02-03 & 538 Walnut Hill Road / 21-02-04

Lastly we discussed what would be the main access road on Walnut Hill Road to enter the easement area. Eversource Mapping records show an access Right of Way between the properties of 528 & 538 continuing through 538 to the easement area. We would like to make it very clear there is NO deeded or recorded Right of Way or Easement and never has been. We as property owners in good faith have allowed CL&P, now Eversource, to access their easement through our property.

Project: 10.9 mile 115-KV Overhead Transmission Line Extension from Frost Bridge to Campville

Comments and Concerns:

At the site walk on Sunday we did discuss the possibility of giving a Temporary Right of Way until the work down below has been completed. A plot sketch will be put together by the Eversource Rep and sent to us for our review. We can discuss those details once we see what impact it will have on our two properties.

Before any work is started the property owners would like copies of liability insurance from each Contractor working on the property, including Eversource, and each naming and holding the property owners harmless from any and all liability with regards to the project including a work hour schedule and emergency contact numbers for emergency purposes (a *blanket policy naming all would suffice*).

We would like to thank you for being sensitive to our concerns and allowing us to participate in your open house as well as meeting with us for a site walk. Your openness has made a big difference on how we view your company and this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

William P. Kryzanowski
Norma L. Kryzanowski

Your Comments, Please

Where did you review the Municipal Consulation Filing (MCF) for the Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project ?

- [x] Open House (9/29/15)
- [ ] Open House (9/30/15)
- [ ] Public Library
- [ ] Other _____

Please use this form to provide your comments on the proposed Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project.

Your Comments:

USING MY DRIVEWAY AS ACCESS CAUSES NUMEROUS AMOUNT OF DUST. EVERSOURCE JUST REPLACED EXISTING STRUCTURES AND USED MY DRIVEWAY AS ACCESS. THEY DID APPLY PROCESS TO MY DRIVEWAY, WHICH HELPED A LITTLE. THIS OBVIOUSLY IS A LARGER PROJECT AND TRAFFIC WILL BE INCREASED. HOPEFULLY EVERSOURCE CAN COME UP WITH A BETTER SOLUTION, POSSIBLY PAVE THE DRIVEWAY.

First Name: THOMAS Last Name: MOSKALUK

Street Address: 320 PARK RD.

Town: WATERTOWN State: CT Zip: 06795

Email Address: MOSKATP@OPTONLINE.NET Phone: 860.274.1635

Please place the completed form in the "Comment Station" at the Open House or hand it to an Eversource representative. You may also mail the comment card to Eversource. We will share a copy of your comments with the Connecticut Siting Council and your town officals. Thank you.

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

JOHN MOSKALUK
334 PARK RD
WATERTOWN CT
203 592 0750

October 8, 2015

Eversource Energy
Jason Cabral
Project Manager
107 Selden Street
Berlin, CT 06037

Dear Mr. Cabral:

I'm writing in regards to the high tension lines proposed to cross my property in 2017 at 192 Park Road, Watertown, CT. Due to health reasons, I was unable to attend your meetings (Sept. 29 & 30, 2015) and discuss these issues.

I appreciate the relationship we've had regarding the easement of the high tension lines crossing my property. Through the years we have found it more difficult to navigate around the poles that carry your power with our larger, more sophisticated equipment we need to maintain our fields. With this new transmission line that you are proposing I would appreciate it if you could locate these new poles in a less precarious position, other than the center of these fields. I suggest next to a hedgerow or in an area that's not being used.

If at all possible, I'd like to meet with your engineers or other representatives to discuss where these poles could be placed on the property.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you. I can be reached at 203-592-0750.

Regards,

John Moskaluk

Herbicide Use on Transmission Rights-of-Way

The vegetation management program for Eversource is focused on controlling vegetation within transmission rights-of-way to support the safe and reliable operation of the electric transmission system. Maintenance work under the program includes the use of federally approved, state-registered herbicides by state-licensed applicators in a carefully prescribed and targeted way specifically to control undesirable vegetation.

Eversource is a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program," which is committed to the proper management of right-of-way vegetation programs and to reducing risks with pesticide applications.

Eversource's vegetation management strategies have been recognized by state agencies and the EPA, which in 2003 named the company as the first electric utility to receive its Champion Award under the "Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program."

Maintenance

The safe and reliable operation of our electric transmission system requires Eversource to control and remove certain plant species from power line rights-of-way. To do this, Eversource uses herbicides as part of its ongoing maintenance programs.

Vegetation maintenance on rights-of-way is typically conducted once every four years, when targeted vegetation usually attains heights that require control.

Eversource adheres to all local, state and federal regulations pertaining to the use of herbicides for rights-of-way vegetation control. This may include the preparation and submission of a detailed vegetation management plan, which is reviewed and approved by the respective state authority and followed by Eversource and its contractors. These regulations require maintaining specific distances around public and private wells, water supply areas, wetlands and sanding water where herbicide use is restricted or limited.

Eversource employs state certified and licensed contractors for herbicide applications. These contractors must undergo regular recertification testing and training covering many aspects of vegetation control including laws and regulations, safety with respect to the use of the materials, application methods/techniques and environmental concerns.

A low-volume, low-pressure application method is employed when herbicides are used, and application is made to the individual stems of the targeted plants. Eversource vegetation management experts select the herbicides to be used on power line rights-of-way. Both the products and the application methods are environmentally sound and provide the optimum level of control of targeted plant species, while protecting and preserving the natural habitats on the rights-of-way.

All herbicides currently selected for use by Eversource are registered and approved for utility brush control purposes by the U.S. EPA, as well as the Departments of Environmental Protection or Agricultural Resources in Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively. The products have also been reviewed by veterinarians who have determined that, when used in accordance with label directions and by certified applicators, the selected herbicides pose no adverse health threat to wildlife or pets.

continued >

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Property owners and occupants of dwellings adjacent to rights-of-way are notified in advance of any scheduled right-of-way maintenance that includes herbicide applications. In addition, Eversource notifies municipal officials in our service territories annually about work planned for the upcoming year.

Construction

Eversource strives to maintain the vegetation within transmission rights-of-way in the most environmentally sensitive, community friendly and economical way possible.

During construction clearing, herbicides are not used. Clearing is handled in stages to accommodate specific construction activities and with the ultimate aim of establishing a stable low-growing grass, shrubland and wildflower community that will provide the greatest potential for wildlife habitat, as well as the safe and reliable operation of the electric system.

EVERSOURCE

For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

April 2015 LM0415

Managing Access to Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission line rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. In the management of these rights-of-way, our priorities are public safety and maintaining the integrity of transmission system property and equipment, while respecting the rights of private property owners who have utility easements on their property. To support this effort, we will install entry barriers as requested by property owners in targeted access road locations to help deter unauthorized vehicle access to the utility rights-of-way.

The majority of the rights-of-way used for the Eversource electric transmission system were established through the purchase of easement rights by Eversource from owners of the underlying property. While we have rights to operate and maintain the electric transmission system through these easements, the underlying property is still owned by private parties. Their rights to use the property continue, subject to our easement rights.

Where transmission rights-of-way cross public roads and private property and are readily accessible to the public, Eversource will work with property owners to determine if entry barriers will help deter unauthorized access. Where appropriate, we will offer to purchase and install entry barriers to help deter unauthorized vehicle access. Typically, the entry barrier is a gate.

Access gates located on private property are usually secured by dual locks, one of which is controlled by the utility company and the other by the owner of the property. Alternatively, a single company-issued combination lock may be used.

During periods of transmission line construction, Eversource or an authorized Eversource contractor may require an opening in an existing fence to gain access to the construction area. With the owner's permission, the company will install a gate in that opening to prevent unauthorized entry and, if needed, restrict the exit of livestock.

An agreement for the installation of the access gate will be provided to private property owners who request to have a gate installed. Gates will be permanently installed unless the property owner requests that the gate be removed after construction. The agreement will outline the ownership, company and landowner access, and maintenance of the gate. For gates being removed, the company will restore the area to a condition substantially the same as that which existed prior to construction, as long as each party is allowed to maintain authorized access.

EVERSOURCE

For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

April 2015 LM0415

Restrictions on ATVs and Snowmobiles in Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource's general policy is not to grant permission, written or verbal, for use of all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles on transmission rights-of-way.

Laws in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire generally provide that no person may operate an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or snowmobile on private property for recreational purposes without the written permission of the landowner.

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission rights-of-way throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The overwhelming majority of these rights-of-way are established through easement rights purchased from owners of the underlying land.

Our general policy in Connecticut and Massachusetts is not to grant permission, written or verbal, for use of transmission rights-of-way by persons on ATVs and snowmobiles. Our rights-of-way are marked and, where practicable, gates, fences and barricades are maintained to prevent access.

Our general policy in New Hampshire is not to grant permission for use of ATVs on transmission rights-of-way on land it owns. However, where Eversource owns only an easement and is not the underlying landowner, it may enter into agreements or relationships with the landowner who may allow use by organized ATV clubs, or trails designated as ATV trails by the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails.

As part of New Hampshire's statewide snowmobile trail system, we have entered into an agreement with the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails to generally allow snowmobile use where Eversource is the landowner. Use of the property by persons on snowmobiles is only granted under the terms of this agreement and renewed on an annual basis.

EVERSOURCE

For More Information:

Connecticut and Massachusetts
ROWInquiry@eversource.com

New Hampshire
NHROWInquiry@eversource.com

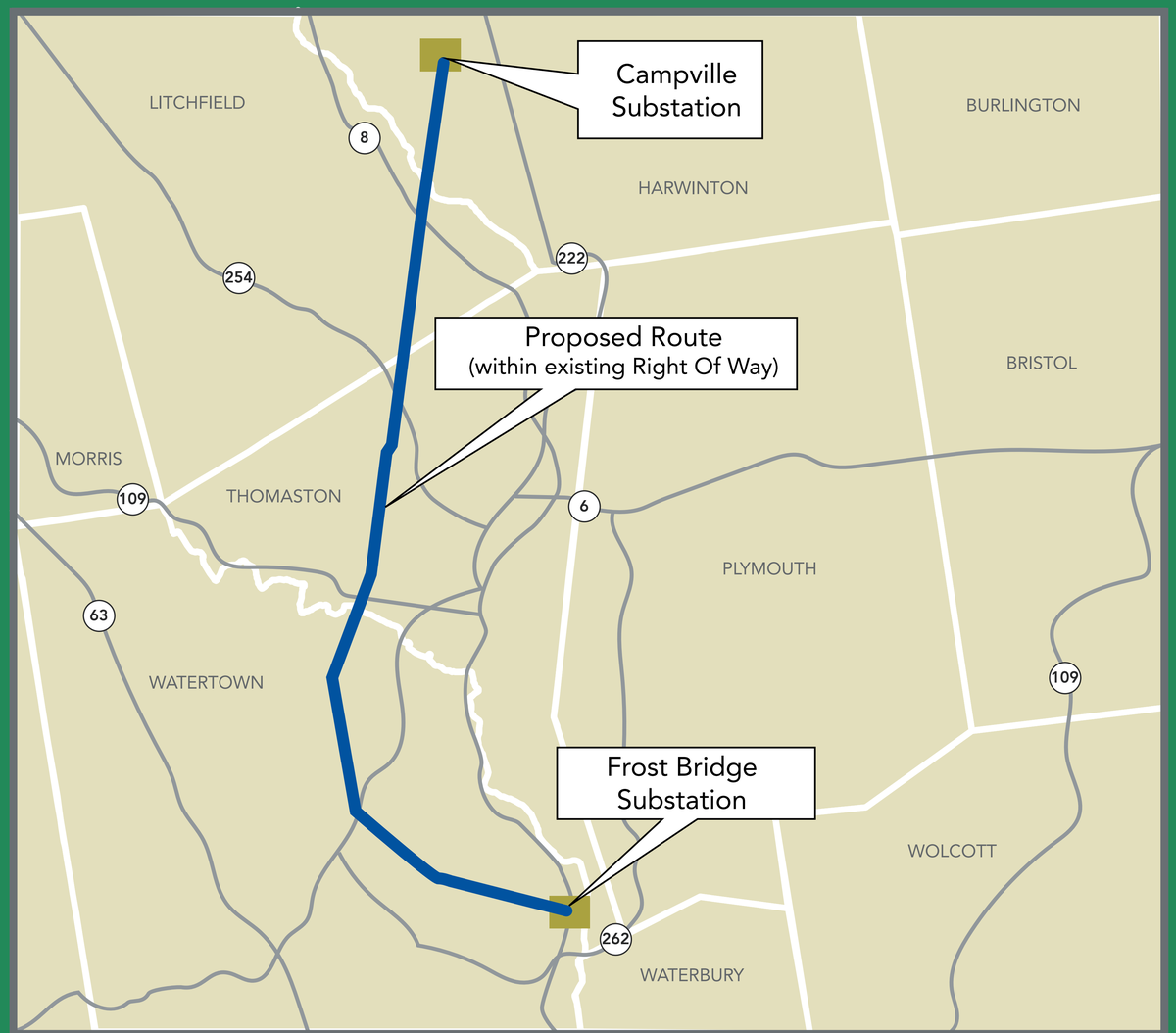
April 2015 LM0415

Open House

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

You are invited!

Learn about a proposed transmission system upgrade in your area.



Permitted and Non-Permitted Use on Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages thousands of miles of transmission and distribution line rights-of-way throughout its service territories in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Making sure that these rights-of-way are free of obstructions is vital to public and employee safety, and ensures a reliable electric system for everyone. That's why inspecting and protecting these rights-of-way is a critical part of what we do.

Transmission and Distribution Rights-of-Way

A right-of-way is the corridor of land that Eversource uses to access, construct, operate, and maintain electric and other utility facilities. Rights-of-way typically contain wood or metal structures with high-voltage electric lines. The majority of the rights-of-way used for our electric system were established through the purchase of easement rights by Eversource from owners of the underlying property. While Eversource has rights to operate and maintain the electric system through these easements, the underlying property is still owned by private parties. Their rights to use the property continue, subject to Eversource's easement rights. Government requirements mandate that safe distances be maintained from power lines to prevent contact accidents and ensure electric system reliability. As a result, some uses of property within the right-of-way are not permitted.

Uses that affect right-of-way access or safety (Non-Permitted Use)

Non-permitted uses by a landowner of property in the rights-of-way can create hazards that may not be obvious, but which could result in power outages or tragedy. Non-permitted use is any use of the property within the rights-of-way that restricts Eversource's ability to construct, maintain and operate power lines and electrical facilities. Common examples include: buildings, swimming pools, fuel tanks, sheds, fences, decks, and flag poles. Also included are underground items such as septic systems, utilities, drainage systems, wells, sprinkler or irrigation systems and invisible fencing for pets.

Permitted Use Application

We want to work with landowners to evaluate any proposed use of the easement area to make sure it is safe and does not interfere with system reliability. By submitting a "Permitted Use Application," landowners can ensure that any planned use of the rights-of-way on their property adheres to mandated government standards and Eversource's guidelines. A Permitted Use Application Package is available from Eversource and provides details on what information should be provided in the application. To request a package from Eversource, please contact: Manager of T&D ROW's and Surveying, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT 06037.

Eversource will review the proposed use to see that it does not compromise public safety; introduce environmental hazards; or interfere with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or upgrade of its facilities.

The evaluation process is a careful evaluation of proposed changes to the rights-of-way and requires a minimum of 60 days. The length of the evaluation period depends on the complexity, accuracy and completeness of the application. Eversource will look to see that the proposed use does not compromise public safety; introduce environmental hazards; or interfere with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or upgrade of its facilities. During the evaluation, Eversource may request revisions to the application and additional information or documents. The results of the evaluation will determine if the intended use is permitted. If approved, Eversource will provide the terms and conditions associated with the approval. Alternatively, if denied, Eversource will provide the reasons for the denial.

For More Information:

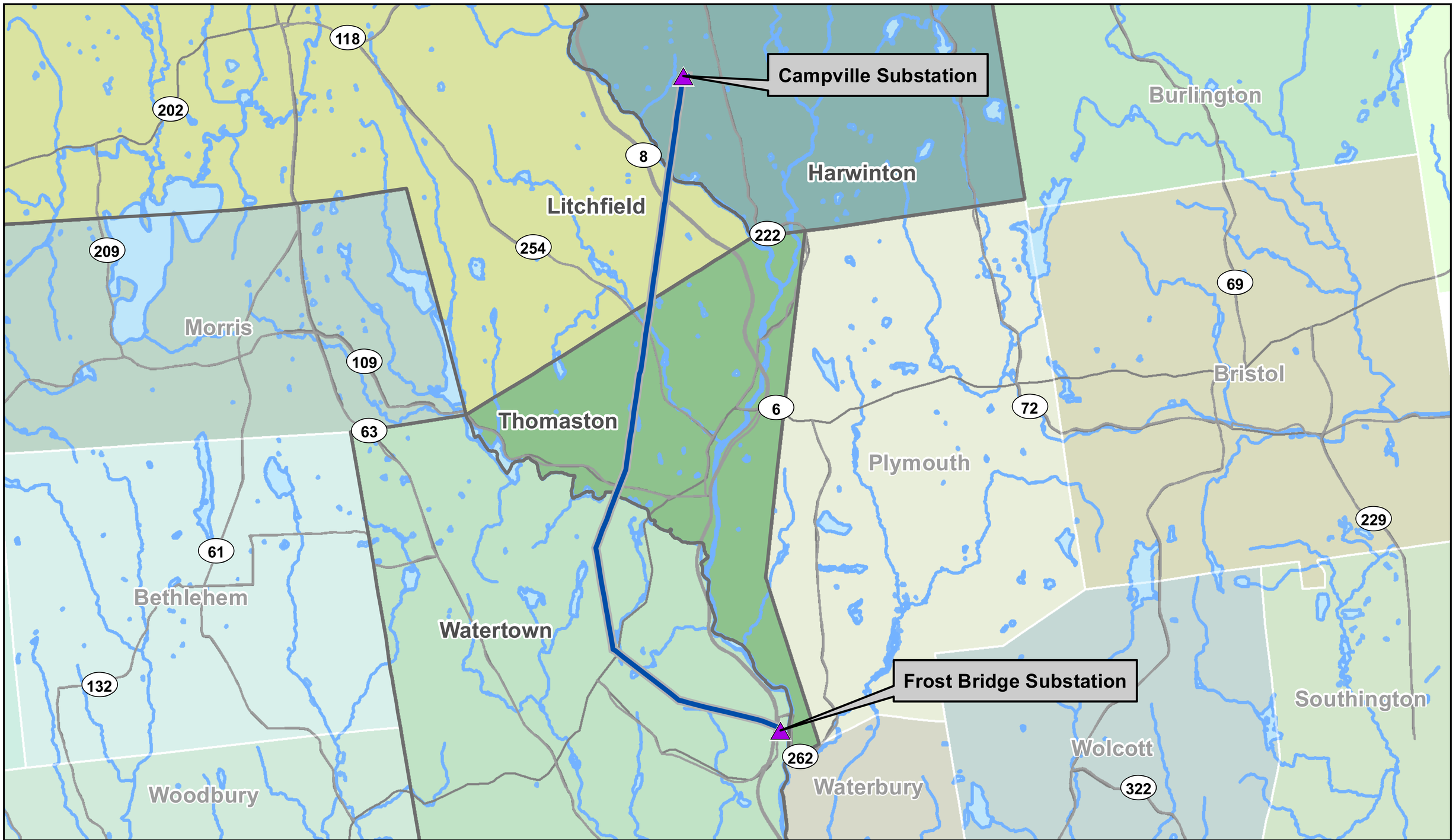
Connecticut and Massachusetts
ROWInquiry@eversource.com

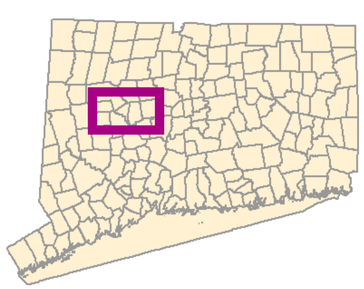
New Hampshire
NHROWInquiry@eversource.com

EVERSOURCE

April 2015 LM0415

Proposed Route Map
Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project





Substation

Proposed Route
(within existing Right Of Way)

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

Source: CT DEEP, Tighe & Bond

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Project Location Map

Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project

August 2015

Frost Bridge to Campville 115-kV Transmission Project Timeline*

	2nd Q 2015	3rd Q 2015	4th Q 2015	1st Q 2016	2nd Q 2016	3rd Q 2016	4th Q 2016	…2nd Q 2017	3rd Q 2017	…4th Q 2018
Discussions with Town										
Municipal Consultation Filing										
Application to CT Siting Council(CSC)										
CSC Review										
CSC Decision										
Development & Management (D&M) Plan**										
Construction**										
Project Outreach										

*Subject to Change
**Pending Approval

Project In Service: 2018

Transmission Lines and Property Values

A recent study, focused on the Connecticut and Massachusetts real estate markets, investigates the effects of high-voltage transmission lines on residential property values.

Updating 25 Years of Study

Opposition to new high-voltage transmission lines commonly stems from the belief that these power lines will have a negative effect on property values. This has led to extensive research and publication in the professional literature over the past 25 years. The general conclusion of these studies is that in about half of the cases no property value effects are found. In addition, when property value effects are found, they tend to be small (6% or less) and dissipate rapidly as distance from the transmission line increases.

However, the more reliable among these studies are dated, and none of the studies has focused on areas close to, or within, the Eversource service territory. Given the expected expansion of Eversource's high-voltage transmission grid, the company commissioned a new study of transmission lines and their effects on property values in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The Authors

The study was conducted by James Chalmers, Ph.D., an economist and real estate appraiser, and Frank Voorvaart, Ph.D., an economist and vice president of The Analysis Group. Both are highly experienced in real estate valuation methodologies.

The report, titled High-Voltage Transmission Lines: Proximity, Visibility and Encumbrance Effects, was featured in the summer 2009 issue of The Appraisal Journal and was extensively peer reviewed prior to its publication. The Journal is a publication of the Appraisal Institute.

Key Research Methods

The study was conducted between April and October 2008. A combination of field inspections, reviews of aerial photography, and reviews of maps of the existing electric transmission grid were used to select nine areas for the study. These were subsequently grouped into four study areas. Within these four areas, more than 1,200 home sales occurring over the period 1998-2007 were identified and analyzed.

Local appraisers were retained to assist in the collection and verification of field data obtained for the sale properties. A multiple regression model was used to evaluate the data. Over the past 25 years, multiple regression analysis increasingly has been recognized as the most reliable technique for investigations such as this. Multiple regression is the least subjective analytical approach and also provides explicit measures of reliability, which help determine what weight to give the results.

Research Results

> There was no evidence of systematic effects on residential real estate values due to visibility or proximity of high-voltage transmission lines in any of the four areas studied.

> A transmission easement does appear to have a consistent, though small, negative effect on real estate values independent of visibility or proximity of the transmission lines.

> The hypothesis that higher-value properties are more vulnerable to devaluation was not supported by the data.

> There was no evidence to suggest real estate values are more vulnerable to transmission line effects in a down market, although the authors cautioned that the number of sales observations in a down market was small.

For More Information

A complete copy of *The Appraisal Journal* article, with its full discussion of study methodology, may be obtained by e-mailing or calling:

ROWInquiry@eversource.com

800-793-2202

EVERSOURCE

February 2015 LM0315100

GRAPHIC INVENTORY

CLIENT CONFIDENTIAL

08/18/2015

4125	04/21/2015	Eversource	Inkjet	1	Panel	26203
ID NO	DATE ENTERED	CLIENT	MATERIAL TYPE (INKJET PRINT ETC)	QTY	CATEGORY (HEADER, SUBHEADER)	PROJECT NO

FILENAME

A Right-of-Way Is-11 40x10 IO-

DESCRIPTION

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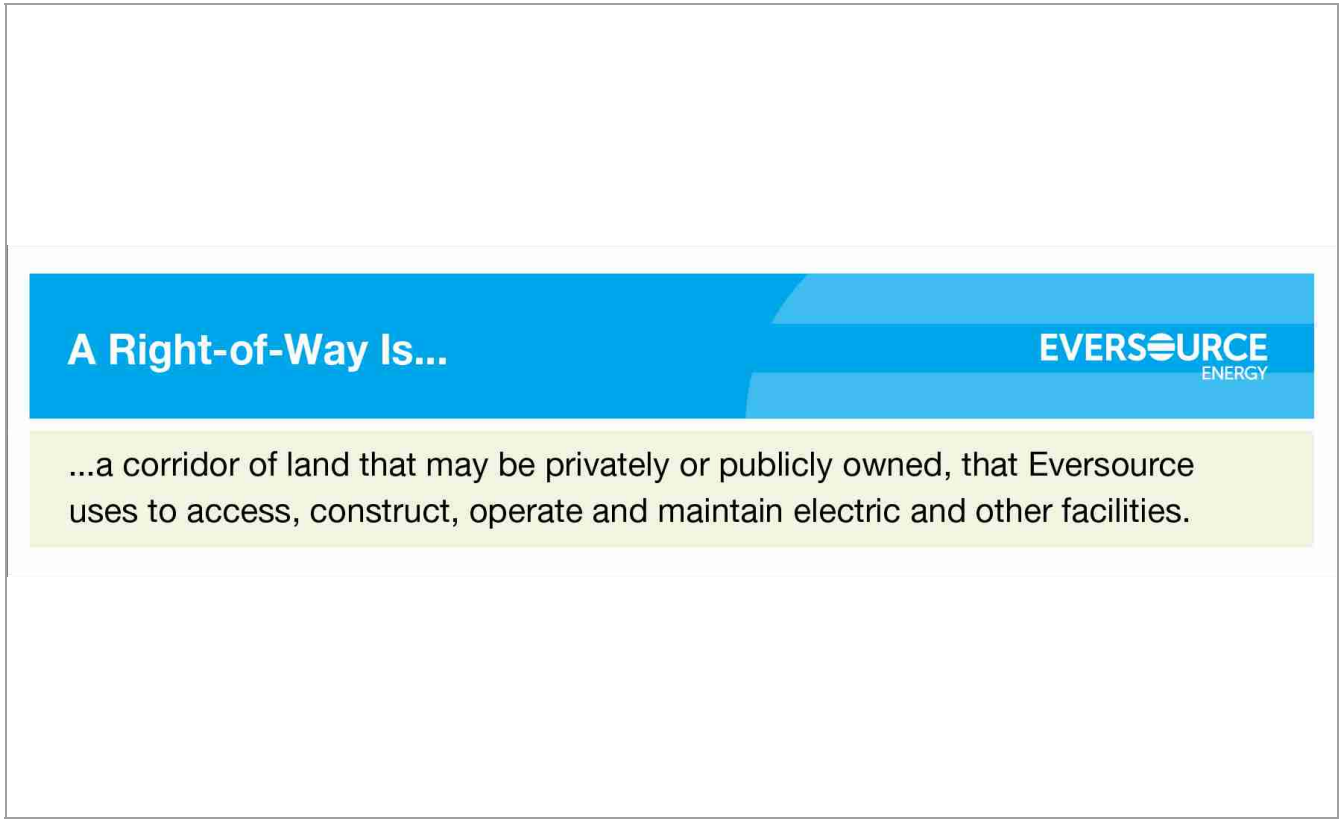
STATUS (Available, deleted, damaged)

NOTES



Transmission Rights-of-Way Restoration

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission line rights-of-way (ROW) in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. During line maintenance and construction activities within these ROWs, we will make reasonable efforts to avoid or minimize disturbances to a landowner's property including damage to trees, shrubs, lawns, and gardens, as well as non-vegetation items such as walls and fences. However, despite such efforts during these activities, some damage to private property may be unavoidable. If this occurs, we will restore property to its pre-construction condition in a manner that is compatible with our operations and maintenance activities. This will take place as soon as is reasonably possible following construction completion.

Restoring Vegetation Areas

When construction or maintenance is complete, disturbed ROW areas will be restored. Erosion controls will also be removed, although some may need to remain until the area is stabilized or until removal is directed by a regulating authority. In previously unlandscaped areas, native shrubs and ground cover will be allowed to grow. In areas that were previously covered with grass, we will restore the area to its pre-construction condition with topsoil and seed. In some areas where visual impacts are greatest, we will replant trees and shrubs with vegetation that is compatible with the future operation and maintenance of its transmission lines according to our guideline entitled, "Vegetation for Transmission Rights-of-Way" and as required by state law and/or regulatory directive.

Restoring Access Roads and Work Areas

Construction and maintenance vehicles must be able to safely access each structure location. In the early stages of a new line's construction, gravel roads approximately 15 to 20 feet wide may be built to support the movement of large equipment and materials. Level gravel work areas ("crane pads") are also needed to stabilize equipment.

When construction is complete, access roads may remain for future maintenance of the transmission facilities within the ROW. Most crane pad areas will be removed and the area will be rehabilitated with topsoil and reseeded. Temporary erosion controls, such as hay bales and silt fences, may need to remain in some areas to prevent soil erosion until the grass or other vegetation regenerates.

Addressing Damage to Property or Other Losses

Eversource will attempt to minimize property damage or other losses that may occur as a result of construction and maintenance activities. If a landowner believes that transmission system work has caused property damage or other losses, the owner should contact his or her Eversource project representative, account executive or customer service representative by calling 800-286-2000 in Connecticut, 800-662-7764 in New Hampshire, 877-659-6326 in western Massachusetts and 800-592-2000 in eastern Massachusetts. Eversource will investigate the claim, and the landowner will be advised as soon as practicable concerning the response to the claim.

EVERSOURCE

For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

April 2015 LM0415

Siting Process

First Step:
Eversource seeks stakeholder input as part of its Municipal Consultation Process

- Eversource submits its Municipal Consultation Filing (MCF) to Local municipal officials.
- As part of the MCF process, Eversource seeks municipal and public input. Written comments received are provided to the Connecticut Siting Council (CSC).
- Eversource will host an Open House to provide officials and residents the opportunity to learn more about the proposed project.

Second Step:
Eversource files its siting application with the CSC

- The CSC conducts a local public hearing and evidentiary hearings.
- The public, municipal officials and other interested stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the local public comment hearing.

Third Step:
The CSC Issues its Decision

- If approved, Eversource develops construction plans, called Development and Management Plans (D&M). The D&M process traditionally offers additional opportunity for municipal input.

EVERSOURCE

Tree and Shrub Planting Guide

For Transmission Rights-of-Way

Table of Contents

Vegetation for Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages approximately 2,300 miles of transmission rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Building and maintaining a safe, reliable transmission system that has a minimal impact on the environment is one of our key goals. That's why we use best management practices when maintaining vegetation in these rights-of-way.

As a property owner, we know that you take great pride and enjoyment in your home. However, some plant species may not be compatible with the construction, operation and maintenance of our transmission system.

Federal, regional and electric industry standards require minimum safety clearances to ensure that vegetation does not come into contact with high-voltage overhead transmission lines. If the vegetation located in the transmission right-of-way is not compatible with the safe operation of the system, it can result in widespread electric power outages or unsafe conditions for electric system workers and the public.

This booklet is designed to assist in the selection of the correct shrub and tree types that are acceptable to plant within or along a transmission right-of-way. Please remember that this information is only a guide; any vegetation located within, or near, the right-of-way is placed at your own risk. During emergencies it may be necessary to remove plantings that meet these guidelines so that we can access the transmission system and make repairs.

Note: Eversource is providing the information in this document for informational purposes only. Because the survival of vegetation is affected by a variety of different circumstances and because we cannot predict how particular vegetation will react to different types of electrical equipment, we cannot promise, warranty or guarantee that following each of the suggestions in this document will yield a particular outcome or guarantee the growth and survival of vegetation.

Overhead Transmission Lines: **Planting Guidelines**

In general, when planting is proposed within Eversource's transmission rights-of-way, low-growing plants such as shrubs, grasses, forbs (wildflowers), ferns and certain low-growing tree species are allowed, with minor restrictions.

To allow for inspection and maintenance of the transmission facilities, new plantings should not be placed where they will obstruct existing access roads or be within 10 feet of a structure or supporting wires.

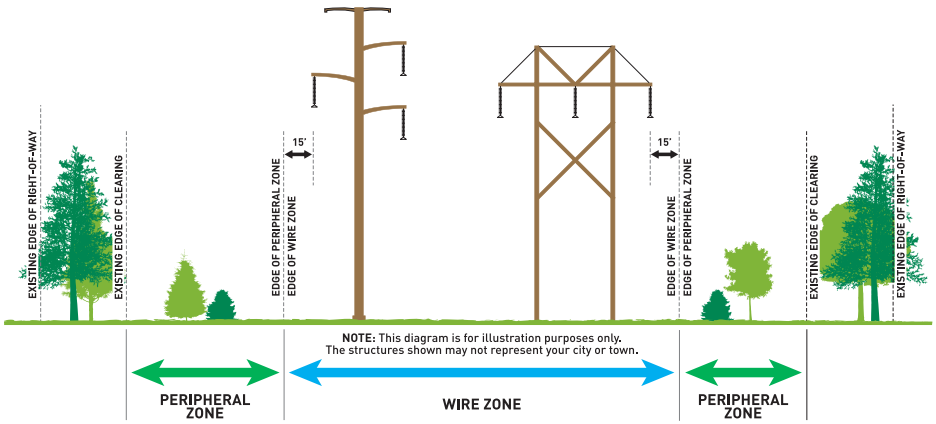
The potential mature height of the tree species will dictate whether or not a tree may be planted within the right-of-way. Generally, trees with mature heights in excess of 30 feet may not be planted anywhere within the right-of-way. Lower-growing tree species, with mature heights less than 25 feet, may be planted only within the Peripheral Zones *(see the diagram on page 6)*, which are the areas beyond the outermost line conductors where the heights of vegetation are less of an issue.

Only plant species with mature heights of 15 feet or less are acceptable within the Wire Zone. Low-growing shrubs, forbs, ferns and grasses may be planted in any zone. Note that each property is unique and plantings may need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

When purchasing trees or shrubs to plant on a transmission line right-of-way over your property, please review the description that comes with the plant or check with a knowledgeable person at the store for plant growth characteristics. Also, vegetation management specialists from Eversource are available to answer questions regarding planting within the right-of-way.

The Wire and Peripheral Zones

When evaluating whether or not a plant is suitable for the location, please refer to the diagram below. The "Wire Zone" (in blue) is the area under the transmission wires. The "Peripheral Zone" (in green) is the area between the outer edge of the Wire Zone and the edge of the clearing. (Note: In some cases, the edge of the clearing may also be the edge of the right-of-way.) Plantings inside and outside of the Peripheral Zones may need to be removed if they are considered to be hazardous and could become an issue for system reliability or safety.



The following is a partial list of tree species with lower mature heights that may be allowed within Peripheral Zone areas. Some of these species are pictured later in this Tree and Shrub Planting Guide:

- American Holly – *Ilex opaca*
- American Smoketree – *Cotinus*
- Arborvitae – *spp. Thuja*
- Chinkapin Oak – *Quercus muehlenbergii*
- Crabapple – *spp. Malus*
- Devil's Walking Stick – *Aralia spinosa*
- Bur Oak – *Quercus macrocarpa*
- Flowering Dogwood – *Cornus florida*
- Flowering Cherry – *Prunus serrulata (Kwanzan)*
- Flowering Plum – *Prunus cerasifera*
- Hawthorne – *Crataegus*
- Hophornbeam – *Ostrya*
- Northern White Cedar – *Chamaecyparis*
- Red Cedar – *Juniperus*
- Serviceberry – *Amelanchier*

Note: Locating the trees identified in the list on the previous page within the right-of-way must be approved by Eversource in advance of any planting to ensure that the tree will not impact the overhead lines.

The list primarily represents trees native to the northeastern U.S. There are other very popular ornamental trees available that could also be used for landscaping. The rule of thumb for trees is that if the mature height is over 30 feet then the trees cannot be placed within the right-of-way. If the mature height is 30 feet or less, the trees may be planted only in the Peripheral Zones.

The following is a partial list of native tree species that should be avoided:

- Ash – *spp. Fraxinus*
- Aspen – *spp. Populas*
- Beech
- Birch – *spp. Carya*
- Blackgum
- Cherry – *spp. Prunus*
- Cottonwood
- Elm
- Fir – *spp. Abies (possible side zone)*
- Hackberry
- Hickory
- Honeylocust
- Horsechestnut
- Kentucky Coffeetree
- Maple – *spp. Acer*
- Oak – *spp. Quercus*
- Pine – *spp. Pinus*
- Poplar
- Sassafras
- Sourwood
- Spruce – *spp. Picea (possible side zone)*
- Sycamore
- Tupelo
- Willow – *spp. Salix*

Invasive Plants

The sale of most invasive plants is usually not allowed.
Such species should not be used in transmission rights-of-way.

Following is a partial list of native invasive plants and tree species that should be avoided within the right-of-way:

- Autumn Olive – *Elaeagnus umbelatta*
- Buckthorn – *Rhamnus*
- Burning Bush – *Euonymous alatus*
- Honeysuckle – *Lonicera*
- Japanese Barberry – *Berberis thunbergii*
- Norway Maple – *Acer platanoides*
- Russian Olive – *Elaeagnus angustifolia*
- Tree of Heaven – *Ailanthus altissima*

Underground Transmission Rights-of-Way: **Planting Guidelines**

1. Within **new easements** (private properties), the agreements with landowners state that **no** trees or shrubs may be planted within permanent easement areas. This means that Eversource will not replace any trees or shrubs from areas that will, at some point, house vaults or duct banks. These disturbed areas (over vaults and duct banks) will be restored with paving or reseeded with a mix native to the area.

2. Trees and shrubs removed from **state and town/city rights-of-way** during construction will be replaced with similar types and sizes of general nursery stock. However, replacement trees will not exceed 12 feet in height and replacement shrubs will not exceed a three-gallon pot. In addition, replacement trees may not be planted within 15 feet of an installed vault or within 10 feet of an installed duct bank.

General Plant Care

Planting and follow-up care are essential to the success of your newly planted trees and shrubs. Proper planting involves digging the appropriate-sized hole, removing the burlap or plastic container around the roots, and planting at the proper height. The proper height is simply providing soil to the same level the plant had when it came from the nursery. Mulch is important to help retain moisture in the soil and keep weeds out, but do not pile the mulch around the stem.

A deep watering at least once a week is recommended through the first summer. A deep watering gets all the way down to the bottom roots. This may take as much as five gallons on some of the larger plants. A light watering that wets the top inch or two will feed only the surface roots. The lower roots will probably die and the remaining live roots will be close to the surface, making them susceptible to drought. If possible, avoid watering at night, and avoid watering the plant's foliage.

Once the plant is established, fertilize before new growth begins in spring. This will enable the plant to gather nutrients essential for leaf, root and flower production. Prune off any dead, dying, diseased or damaged wood.

Shrubs

Andromeda, *Pieris japonica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf
Height: Approximately 4'-10'
Width: Approximately 6'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Various
Flower Color: Various
Flower Season: Various
Exposure: Shade to partial shade
Soil: Slightly acid

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Andromeda available. Andromedas are evergreen shrubs that grow to various size heights and widths.

Care Information: Prune after flowering to keep bushy. Clip off old flower heads after flowers fade in spring. This allows new flower buds to develop for the following year. Not a favorite deer food.

Arborvitae, *Thuja spp.*

Zone: Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, evergreen conifer
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Most often green
Flower Color: n/a
Flower Season: n/a
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Arborvitae, with some native to the region. Arborvitae are evergreen shrubs and trees that grow to various size heights and widths.

Care Information: This tree is not drought-tolerant; water well during hot summers and mulch generously to retain moisture. Pruning is rarely required. Shear for formal appearance. Many varieties are often eaten by deer.

Blueberry, Highbush, *Vaccinium spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 6'-12'
Width: Approximately 4'-6'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green foliage which turns scarlet in the fall/blue-black berries
Flower Color: White to pink
Flower Season: May
Exposure: Full sun
Soil: Moist, acidic, and infertile

Description: Plant more than one variety to assure adequate cross-pollination for fruiting. Prune in early spring to remove thin growth and old wood before buds start to swell. Native to region.

Care Information: New plantings should be fertilized, and due to their need for high moisture content, they should be surrounded with mulch and watered.

Chokeberry, *Aronia spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 6'-10'
Width: Approximately 3'-5'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to scarlet in fall/berries red to black (cultivar dependent)
Flower Color: White
Flower Season: Early spring
Exposure: Full sun to partial sun
Soil: Tolerates many soil types

Description: Upward, spreading, multi-stemmed shrub, has berries and fall color.

Care Information: Planting in a bright sunny area will result in significant flowering.

Deutzia, Slender, *Deutzia gracilis*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 2'-4'

Width: Approximately 3'-6'

Foliage / Fruit Color: Green leaves with little fall color / no significant fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Tolerates many soil types; prefers moist soil

Description: There are over 60 variations of the Deutzia, with the most common being the Slender Deutzia.

Care Information: Planting in a bright sunny area will result in significant flowering.

Dogwood (shrub), *Cornus spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Dogwood. Dogwoods are deciduous shrubs and trees that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the species and cultivar. Some are native to the region.

Care Information: Do not overwater; rarely needs pruning.

Elderberry, *Sambucus spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-12'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green leaf changing to yellow in fall/purple-black berry clusters

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Summer

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Well-drained, loamy or sandy

Description: This fast-growing, versatile shrub has attractive foliage and white flower clusters that give way to tart black berries in late summer/early fall. Beneficial for wildlife.

Care Information: Watering through the first growing season after planting encourages rapid root growth.

Enkianthus, Redvein, *Enkianthus campanulatus*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-10'

Width: Approximately 4'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to red in fall / small capsule turns brown in fall

Flower Color: Yellow/white with reddish marks

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun to shade

Soil: Acidic, moist, cool; avoid dry open exposures

Description: Easy-to-grow, unique upright shrub with horizontal branching attractive in winter. Nice fall color. Usually not preferred by deer.

Care Information: Moderate pruning is required to develop the plant into its desired form, and to maintain its shape.

Forsythia, *Forsythia spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Flower Color: Varies
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun to partial sun
Soil: Well-drained

Description: Forsythias are a hearty shrub that come in multiple varieties. They can grow in irregular shapes or upright. There is an arching variety as well. Branches touching the ground will most likely result in a new plant.

Care Information: Flowers form on previous year's growth. Prune immediately after flowering.

Fragrant Sumac, *Rhus aromatica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 2'-6'
Width: Approximately 6'-10'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to orange in fall; bright red
Flower Color: Yellowish
Flower Season: Spring
Exposure: Full sun
Soil: Well-drained soil, infertile

Description: After flowering in spring, Sumac's dark green foliage appears. It turns orange to reddish-purple in autumn, contrasting with bright red fruit. This is an excellent shrub for planting on borders or in front of taller shrubs.

Care Information: No major pest problems.

Holly (inkberry), *Ilex glabra*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, evergreen
Height: Approximately 4'-8'
Width: Approximately 4'-6'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Various/typically black berries
Flower Color: White, male flowers in clusters and female flowers solitary
Flower Season: Early summer
Exposure: Sun to partial shade
Soil: Rich, slightly acidic

Description: The genus Ilex contains versatile plants that can be grown as small- to large-size shrubs. Some are native to the region.

Care Information: Likes moist soil conditions, and may need some pruning to maintain fullness.

Holly (winterberry), *Ilex spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral (specie & cultivar dependent)
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 6'-10'
Width: Approximately 6'-10'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Various, most often red berries
Flower Color: White
Flower Season: Various
Exposure: Sun to partial shade
Soil: Rich, slightly acidic

Description: The genus Ilex contains versatile plants that can be grown as small- to large-size shrubs. Some are native to the region.

Care Information: It is important to plant both male (do not produce berries) and female (produce berries) shrubs within approximately 40 feet of one another for adequate pollination if a self-pollinating variety (such as Nellie Stevens) is not planted.

Hydrangea, *Hydrangea spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Summer
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Acidic, moist, and well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Hydrangea. Hydrangeas are deciduous plants that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the species and cultivar, with some native to the region.

Care Information: Too much shade will result in a lack of flowers. Soil pH can determine the color of the flowers of some species; acidic soil will produce a more blue flower while alkaline soil will produce a more pink flower.

Leucothoe, *Leucothoe spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf
Height: Approximately 2'-6'
Width: Approximately 2'-6'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Shiny green to bronze/no significant fruit
Flower Color: White
Flower Season: May
Exposure: Partial shade to shade
Soil: Moist, cool, acidic

Description: This arching shrub has long, lance-shaped leaves on slender stems. The shrub appears to weep with the weight of the leaves.

Care Information: Ideal in shade; keep away from direct wind. If planting in sun, be sure to keep the soil moist.

Lilac, *Syringa spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Tree, shrub; deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Well-drained

Description: These fragrant trees and shrubs are popular with gardeners all over. They thrive in areas with cold winters and produce beautiful flowers, depending on the variety.

Care Information: Be aware when pruning as new flowers typically grow on older branches. Once established, lilacs require little care, and are generally disease-, pest- and deer-resistant.

Mock Orange, *Philadelphus coronarius*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral (specie and cultivar dependent)
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 8'-10'
Width: Approximately 4'-6'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green/no significant fruit
Flower Color: White
Flower Season: Late spring
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Does not prefer wet soil conditions

Description: This shrub gives off an orange-like scent when in bloom in the late spring. There are many varieties of this plant.

Care Information: Minimal care is needed once established. Gradually remove older stems to keep the plant vigorous.

Mountain Laurel, *Kalmia latifolia*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf

Height: Approximately 6'-12'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Glossy dark green, no fall color/brown seed capsule

Flower Color: Cultivar dependent

Flower Season: Early June

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Cool, well-drained, acidic

Description: There are many species and cultivars. Kalmia are evergreen shrubs that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the specie and cultivar. This native shrub is the state flower of Connecticut.

Care Information: Kalmia rarely need to be pruned, although pinching off the seed heads after blooming promotes better flowering for the next season.

New Jersey Tea, *Ceanothus americanus*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 3'-4'

Width: Approximately 3'-5'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves/clusters of small black fruit form in July and August

Flower Color: White fragrant flowers

Flower Season: Late spring to early summer

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Light, well-drained soil

Description: Tough, adaptable, compact shrub useful for dry infertile soils. Tolerates rocky conditions.

Care Information: Minimal, once established.

Ninebark, *Physocarpus opulifolius*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 6'-10'

Width: Approximately 6'-10'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to yellow-bronze in the fall/reddish

Flower Color: White with a pink tint

Flower Season: Late spring to early summer

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Well-drained soil

Description: This hearty shrub gets its unusual name from the many "layers" of bark the plant has when it molts. Birds and butterflies are attracted to this shrub, which comes in many varieties.

Care Information: Adaptable to many soil conditions and easy to care for.

Northern Bayberry, *Myrica pensylvanica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral

Classification: Shrub; semi-evergreen to deciduous

Height: Approximately 5'-6'

Width: Approximately 5'-6'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green/powder blue berries

Flower Color: Males – yellow-green catkins; Females – white

Flower Season: Early spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Tolerates a wide range of soils, except for high pH

Description: This native hearty shrub is adaptable to almost any environment. The leaves are fragrant when crushed. The waxy blue berries are used to make bayberry-scented candles and are attractive to birds.

Care Information: Adaptable to many soil conditions and easy to care for.

Rhododendron, *Rhododendron spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, evergreen broadleaf
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Sandy, loamy; only deciduous tolerates moist soil

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Rhododendron, with some native to the region. Rhododendrons are evergreen or deciduous shrubs that grow to various heights and spread. Flower color varies based on species and cultivar.

Care Information: Very little trimming and pruning is required. Winters can be harsh to these plants; winter protection is recommended in open exposures.

Rose, Japanese, *Kerria japonica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 3'-6'
Width: Approximately 5'-10'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to yellow/ no significant fruit
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: Spring
Exposure: Sun to shade
Soil: Well drained, moist, loamy, medium fertility

Description: This fast-growing deciduous shrub forms mounds of green stems that are attractive even in winter. In spring, the mounds are covered with small yellow flowers on a background of green oval shaped leaves.

Care Information: Once established, prune out some of the older branches to maintain the shape.

Smokebush, Common, *Cotinus coggygria*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, tree; deciduous
Height: Approximately 12'-15'
Width: Approximately 12'-15'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Summer
Exposure: Prefers full sun, tolerant to partial shade
Soil: All soils but wet

Description: This large rounded shrub is grown for its "smoke-like" floral effect and brilliant autumn color. Once established, the upright branches spread out, and the plant becomes somewhat drought tolerant.

Care Information: Once established, older specimens can be limbed to create small attractive trees.

Spicebush, Common, *Lindera benzoin*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 8'-12'
Width: Approximately 6'-8'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to yellow in fall/ red berries on female plants
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: Early spring
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained soil

Description: This native plant is a broad multi-stemmed shrub that is covered with fragrant yellow flowers in the spring. The aromatic leaves turn yellow in the fall. Birds are attracted to the small red fruits.

Care Information: This shrub can usually tolerate full shade. Fall color is best in sunny areas.

Spirea, *Spirea spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 2'-10'
Width: Approximately 2'-10'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Sun to light shade
Soil: Well-drained soil

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Spirea available. Spireas are tough deciduous plants. Distinguished by their size, bloom color and season of bloom, Spireas typically have small leaves and fine, twiggy branches. Once established, they are somewhat drought tolerant.

Care Information: Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Feed with a general purpose fertilizer before new growth begins in spring.

Summersweet, *Clethra alnifolia*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 2'-6'
Width: Approximately 6'
Foliage / Fruit Color: Deep green, changing to yellow-green to golden-brown in the fall/ brown capsule
Flower Color: White
Flower Season: Mid to late summer
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Moist, acidic

Description: Fast-growing, low- to medium-size shrub with vertical branches producing 3-5 spires of tiny fragrant flowers in mid to late summer. Deep green leaves grow approximately 2-4 inches long that turn clear yellow-green to golden-brown in the fall. Tolerates coastal climates and is native to the region.

Care Information: Soil should be kept moist but not saturated; usually very little pruning needed.

Swamp Azalea, *Rhododendron viscosum*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 8'-10'
Width: Approximately 6'-8'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to brown/ no significant fruit
Flower Color: Various
Flower Season: Summer
Exposure: Sun to partial shade
Soil: Moist

Description: Also known as a Clammy Azalea, this native plant grows best in soggy areas but can tolerate some drought. The large white flowers give off a clove-like scent that attracts butterflies.

Care Information: They thrive best with organic material in the soil. Pile leaves and pine needles around the root base. Take care of the shallow roots.

Sweetfern, *Comptonia peregrina*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 2'-4'
Width: Approximately 4'-8'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to brown/ no significant fruit
Flower Color: Yellow-green
Flower Season: Early spring
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Sandy, acidic

Description: This native plant is easily grown, features simple narrow green leaves, and generally spreads twice as long as it is high. The leaves are pleasantly fragrant when crushed.

Care Information: This is a tolerant plant and can adapt to almost any situation, but it does not transplant well.

Viburnum, *Viburnum spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 4'-12'
Width: Approximately 4'-12'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Various
Flower Color: Various
Flower Season: Various
Exposure: Sun to partial shade
Soil: Well-drained soil

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Viburnums that are native to the region and suit a wide range of soil conditions. Viburnums are deciduous and bloom times vary based on the species and cultivar. Most Viburnums have outstanding fall foliage.

Care Information: Occasional pruning is helpful in rejuvenation and shaping.

Virginia Sweetspire, *Itea virginica*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 3'-6'
Width: Approximately 3'-6'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to intense red in fall
Flower Color: White
Flower Season: Summer
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Adaptable to most soils

Description: This plant typically will have a greater width than height. The Virginia Sweetspire will hold on to its leaves, resulting in a contrasting deep red against the white snow in winter.

Care Information: Minimal care is usually needed once the plant is established.

Weigela, *Weigela spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, deciduous
Height: Approximately 6'-9'
Width: Approximately 6'-10'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies/no significant fruit
Flower Color: White, pink, red
Flower Season: Late spring
Exposure: Full sun
Soil: Well-drained

Description: This gracefully arching shrub attracts hummingbirds with its blooms in dense clusters. There are many varieties of the Weigela.

Care Information: This plant is usually easy to care for once it becomes established.

Witch-hazel, *Hamamelis virginiana*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
Classification: Shrub, tree; deciduous
Height: Approximately 15'
Width: Approximately 8'-15'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green to yellow in fall/small capsule
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: October and November after foliage drops
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained

Description: Vigorous, flowering shrub/small tree with upright to spreading loosely branched habit. Prune after flowering to shape and contain growth. Plant for a fragrant accent border as specimen, or in informal areas. A unique feature of this plant is that it flowers in late winter or fall rather than the spring. Some species of this plant are native to the region.

Care Information: Pruning is necessary only to remove deadwood, and should be carried out after flowering. Honey fungus and coral spot may affect this plant.

Trees

Crabapple, *Malus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only
(specie and cultivar dependent)
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun
Soil: Moist, well-drained

Description: A decent shade tree; can be used for screenings. It is tolerant of almost any soil and can withstand drought conditions. The fruits attract many different forms of wildlife.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Dogwood (tree), *Cornus spp.*

Zone: Wire and Peripheral
(specie and cultivar dependent)
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Dogwood. Dogwoods are deciduous shrubs and trees that grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color varies based on the species and cultivar with some native to the region.

Care Information: Do not overwater; trees rarely need pruning.

Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 20'-30'

Width: Approximately 15'-25'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Bright green leaves that turn yellow-green in fall/2-3" seed pods that turn green to brown

Flower Color: Pinkish

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Almost any, except wet soils

Description: Birds enjoy the shelter and seeds that the tree produces. This tree is native to the region.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun to partial shade and in well-drained soil. Once established, this tree can become drought tolerant; avoid open exposures.

Epaulette Tree, *Pterostyrax hispida*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 20'-30'

Width: Approximately 10'-15'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green, finely toothed oval-shaped leaves that turn yellow or yellow-green in fall/no significant fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Well-drained, moist, acidic soils

Description: Bees enjoy the large drooping flowers this tree produces. The fragrance usually changes during flowering. Left undisturbed, the tree will usually form a teardrop shape.

Care Information: Once the tree has established itself, minimal care is typically needed.

Flowering Cherry, *Prunus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Varies

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Moist, fertile, and well-drained

Description: Many cherry trees have beautiful double-pink flowers and a vase-shape that rounds as it matures. This tree is popular for street buffer plantings, and some are native to the region.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Flowering Pear, *Pyrus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Varies

Width: Varies

Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies

Flower Color: Varies

Flower Season: Usually spring

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Flowering Pear. They are deciduous and grow to various size heights and widths. Flower color is usually white.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Flowering Plum, *Prunus spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only
Classification: Tree, shrub; deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Varies
Exposure: Full sun to partial sun
Soil: Well-drained

Description: There are many species and cultivars of Flowering Plum, with some native to the region. Flowering Plum plants are deciduous and grow to various size heights and widths. Flowers vary in color based on the species and cultivar. The foliage color is usually maroon.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Hophornbeam, American, *Ostrya virginiana*

Zone: Peripheral only
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Approximately 30'
Width: Approximately 20'-40'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green foliage, turning yellow in fall/small green pod
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: Fall
Exposure: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained, and slightly acid

Description: Also known as Ironwood, this typically slow-growing, graceful tree adds 10-15' in height in about 15 years. Single or multiple trunks often become twisted and knobby. Tree has a pyramidal branching form when young; matures with oval to rounded form. Native to the region.

Care Information: Very intolerant of salt. Tolerates drought well, along with sun or shade and urban conditions.

Magnolia, *Magnolia spp.*

Zone: Peripheral only
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Varies
Width: Varies
Foliage/Fruit Color: Varies
Flower Color: Varies
Flower Season: Late spring to mid-summer
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Slightly acidic; keep clear of wet areas

Description: There are many variations of the Magnolia – some native to the region – most with beautiful flowers in the spring. The flowers attract many forms of wildlife including birds and butterflies.

Care Information: In dry spells, be sure to water thoroughly.

Seven Sons Flower, *Heptacodium miconioides.*

Zone: Peripheral
Classification: Tree, deciduous
Height: Approximately 15'-20'
Width: Approximately 10'-15'
Foliage/Fruit Color: Green/reddish-purple fruits
Flower Color: White with green sepals that change from green to burgundy
Flower Season: Late summer
Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Moist, well-drained, and fertile

Description: A large multi-stemmed shrub that can be trained into a single trunk. The flowers occur in clusters of seven (hence the name). In winter, the bark exfoliates to reveal a dark brown inner bark.

Care Information: No serious insect or disease problems.

Shadblow, Serviceberry, *Amelanchier spp.*

Zone: Peripheral

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 15'-20'

Width: Approximately 10'-20'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to red, orange, yellow in fall/blue-black fruits

Flower Color: Typically white

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Partial sun

Soil: Moist, well-drained, and acidic

Description: Fruit usually attracts many birds as it matures.

Care Information: Do not overwater; rarely needs pruning.

Singleseed Hawthorne, *Crataegus monogyna*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 20'-30'

Width: Approximately 20'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green leaves that turn red in fall; red fruit

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Early summer

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Drought tolerant

Description: Hawthornes are a hearty tree that are often used in maritime areas because they can stand up to strong winds. With proper pruning they can be maintained as shrubs. Produces a fruit that is attractive to birds. Caution, there are thorns along the stems.

Care Information: For best results, plant in full sun and in well-drained soil.

Staghorn Sumac, *Rhus typhinia*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Shrub, deciduous

Height: Approximately 15'

Width: Approximately 15'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green changing to orange in fall/bright red

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Season: Spring

Exposure: Full sun

Soil: Well-drained soil, infertile

Description: After flowering in spring, Sumac's dark green foliage appears and turns orange to reddish-purple in autumn, contrasting their bright red fruit.

Care Information: No major pest problems.

Weeping White Pine, *Pinus strobus 'Pendula'*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, evergreen conifer

Height: Approximately 15'-20'

Width: Approximately 6'-8'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Green needles/brown cone

Flower Color: n/a

Flower Season: n/a

Exposure: Partial sun to full sun

Soil: Tolerates many soil types

Description: The weeping form of the eastern White Pine comes from the drooping branches that will usually touch the ground. Tree is native to the region, with soft needles that provide shelter for wildlife, especially in winter.

Care Information: In dry spells, be sure to water thoroughly.

White Fringetree, *Chionanthus virginicus*

Zone: Peripheral only

Classification: Tree, deciduous

Height: Approximately 12'-20'

Width: Approximately 12'-20'

Foliage/Fruit Color: Dark green, changing to yellows and browns/blue-black "olive-like" fruits

Flower Color: White

Flower Season: Late spring

Exposure: Full sun to partial sun

Soil: Rich, moist, acidic

Description: This small tree produces showy white strap-like flowers that appear at the same time as the foliage. The flowers are fragrant and droop, which gives the tree its nickname of "Old Greybeard."

Care Information: Once established, minimal care is needed.

Notes:

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P.O. Box 270, Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270
TransmissionVM@Eversource.com

LM4153M

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Vegetation Management Along Electric Rights-of-Way

Eversource's Sustainable Approach to Safe and Reliable Electric Power

Our Integrated Vegetation Management Program creates a diverse, sustainable and aesthetically valuable habitat for a wide range of wildlife species while ensuring the safe and reliable transmission of electricity in these corridors.

Eversource's Rights-of-Way Vegetation Management Program

Eversource regularly prunes, cuts and removes tall-growing trees and selected invasive shrubs on more than 2,300 miles of electric transmission corridors. Managing vegetation within these corridors minimizes potential safety hazards and improves the reliability of the transmission system for you, our customers, businesses and communities. In many cases, the management of vegetation and the degree with which pruning or clearing is performed is mandated by federal regulations.

For Safety and Reliability

Vegetation in close proximity to energized transmission facilities poses a serious safety hazard. Vegetation contact may lead to an outage that could extend well beyond the immediate area, impacting hundreds or thousands of electric customers. Managing and maintaining required distances between vegetation and energized facilities is the main reason for performing routine pruning and clearing.

The importance of this work was underscored in 2003, when trees contacting transmission lines in the central part of the U.S. resulted in a blackout that affected most of the Northeast and, most recently the outages resulting from Tropical Storm Irene and the October Nor'easter of 2011. As a result of the 2003 blackout, the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC) issued numerous regulations affecting the management and operation of transmission systems in the U.S. One of these new standards deals specifically with vegetation management and requires that utilities employ best management practices when managing rights-of-way.

The Wire and Peripheral Zones

Eversource's vegetation management program employs a Wire Zone – Peripheral Zone method to maintain our transmission corridors. This method allows for the creation of two separate management zones:

The **Wire Zone** is the area directly under the conductors, extending outward 15 feet from the outermost conductors on each side. Within this zone, trees and brush are selectively removed to allow for the establishment and preservation of low-growing plant communities that have a mature height of 8 feet or less.

The **Peripheral Zone** is the area 15 feet from the outermost conductors to the limits of clearing on each side of the right-of-way. Within this zone, incompatible trees and brush are selectively removed while trees and shrubs with mature heights below 25 feet and all other low-growing plant species are preserved. Outside the cleared limits of the right-of-way, trees that have the potential to grow or fall into the energized facilities are pruned or removed with permission from the land owner.

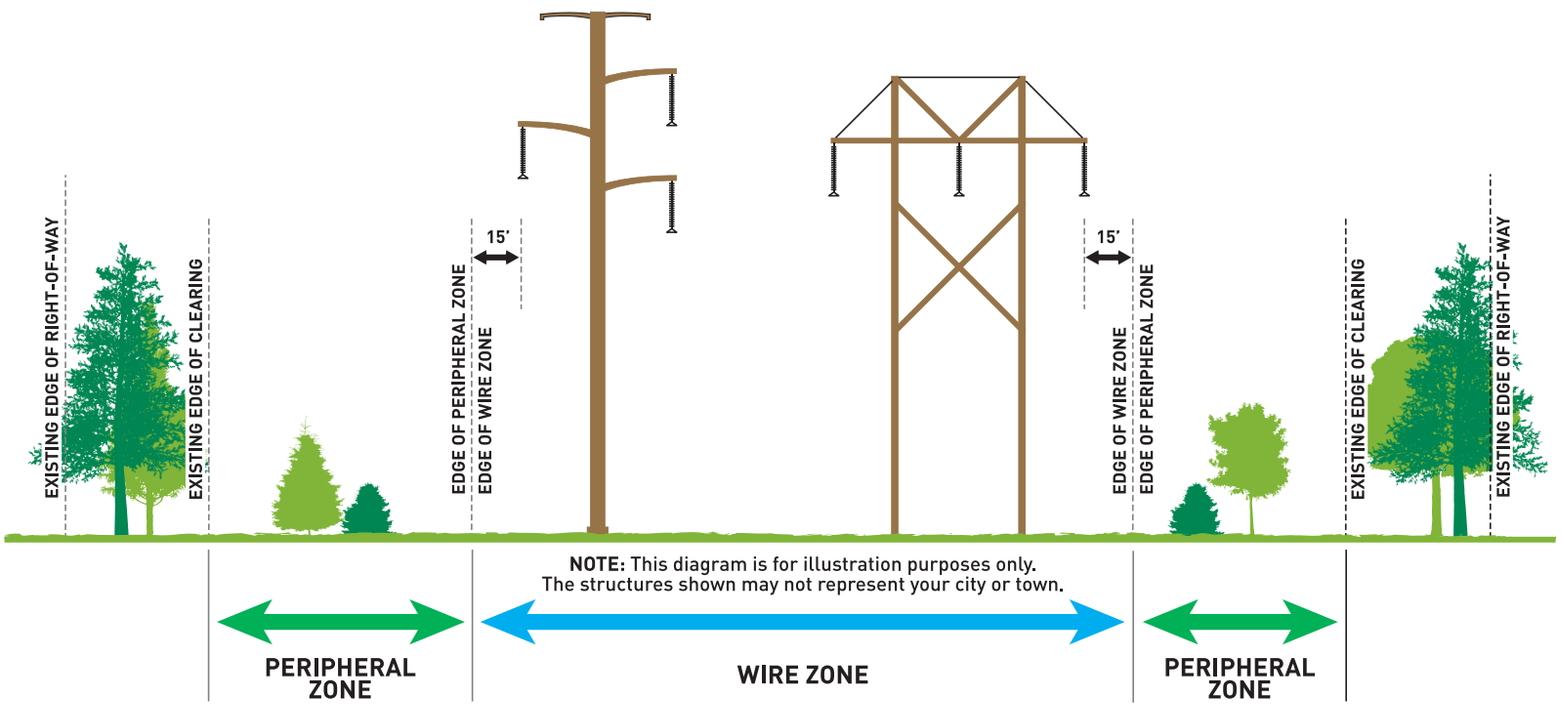
In transmission right-of-way corridors where we have employed the Wire Zone – Peripheral Zone method of vegetation management for many years, the resulting vegetation conditions provide a stable, open area comprised of early successional plant communities. These aesthetically-pleasing grass/forb/shrub meadows attract diverse and numerous plant and animal life, and serve as ideal habitat for a wide range of wildlife that includes many federal and state-listed species.

Eversource's integrated approach includes cutting, pruning and/or the selective use of approved herbicides on established plant communities that restrict the establishment of incompatible species through competition for space, sunlight, and nutrients, as well as browsing by animals. This approach has proven to be an effective means of creating a sustainable transmission corridor environment.

Long-term Benefits

Because the selective control of incompatible plant species (tall-growing trees and invasive shrubs) supports the establishment of native, low-growing plant communities that inhibit the establishment of targeted plant species, the benefits include:

- *Longer maintenance cycles (less frequent need for human intervention)*
- *Reduced mechanical/manual clearing requirements ; less impacts on the right-of-way ecosystems*
- *Reduction in incompatible plant populations that result in less work during each successive maintenance period*
- *When herbicides are employed, over time, less overall amounts need to be applied*



A Sustainable Approach

Over time, the transmission corridor will be a sustainable, diverse habitat, with grasses, shrubs and trees that can safely coexist with transmission lines.

Compatible Trees and Shrubs

Trees and shrubs planted in the right-of-way border zone should have a mature height of no taller than 25 feet. Below is a sampling that meet this criteria. Your local nursery is your best source for deciding which planting is best suited to your property.

Dogwood Tree

Crabapple Tree

Blueberry Bush

Hydrangea Bush

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For More Information

800-793-2202

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com

Eversource.com

Vegetation for Transmission Rights-of-Way

Eversource manages nearly 2,300 miles of transmission rights-of-way in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Building and maintaining a safe, reliable transmission system that has a minimal impact on the environment is one of our key goals. That's why we use best management practices when clearing and maintaining vegetation in these rights-of-way.

As a property owner, you take great pride and enjoyment in your home. However, some plant species may not be compatible with the construction, operation and maintenance of Eversource's transmission system.

Federal, regional and electric industry standards require minimum safety clearances to ensure that vegetation doesn't come into contact with high-voltage overhead transmission lines. If the vegetation located in the transmission rights-of-way is not compatible with the safe operation of the system, it can result in widespread electric power outages or unsafe conditions for electric system workers and the public.

This handout is designed to assist in the selection of the correct shrub and tree types that are acceptable to plant within or along a transmission right-of-way. Please remember that this information is only a guide; any vegetation located within, or along the immediate edge of the right-of-way is planted at your own risk. During emergencies it may be necessary to remove plantings that meet these guidelines so that Eversource can access the transmission system and make repairs.

There are numerous shrub and tree species that are acceptable for planting within the "Wire and Peripheral Zones" (see diagram on reverse page) of a transmission right-of-way. In general, low-growing shrubs, grasses, forbs (wildflowers), ferns and certain low-growing tree species are allowed within the established right-of-way, with minor restrictions. To allow for inspection and maintenance of the transmission facilities, new plantings should not be placed where they will obstruct existing access roads or be within 10 feet of a structure or supporting wires.

The potential mature height of the tree species will dictate whether or not a tree may be planted within the right-of-way. Generally, trees with mature heights in excess of 25 feet may not be planted anywhere within the right-of-way. Lower-growing tree species, with mature heights less than 25 feet, may be planted only within the Peripheral Zones, which are the areas beyond the outermost conductors where the heights of vegetation are less of an issue. Only plant species with mature heights of 8 feet or less are acceptable within the Wire Zone; low-growing shrubs, forbs, ferns and grasses may be planted in any zone. Note that each property is unique, and plantings may need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

When purchasing trees to plant on a transmission line right-of-way over your property, please review the description that comes with the plant or check with a knowledgeable person at the store for plant growth characteristics. Also, vegetation management specialists from Eversource are available to answer questions regarding planting within the right-of-way.

continued >

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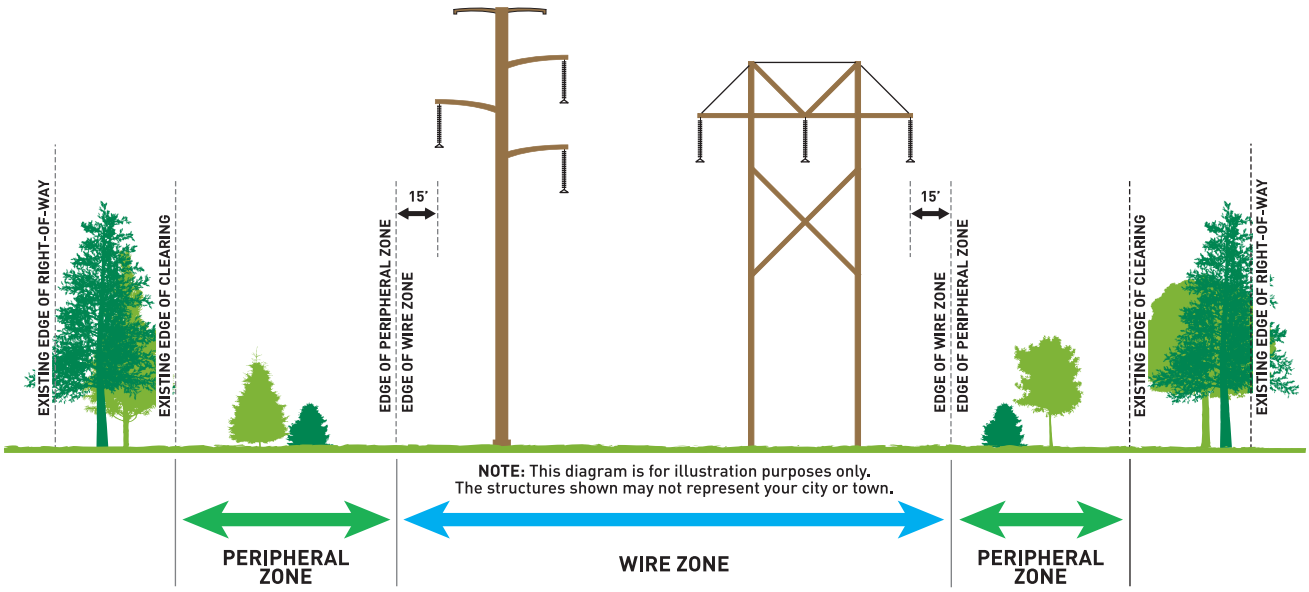
The Wire and Peripheral Zones

When evaluating whether or not a plant is suitable for the location, please refer to the diagram below. The "Wire Zone" (in blue) is the area under the transmission wires. The "Peripheral Zone" (in green) is the area between the outer edge of the Wire Zone and the edge of the clearing. (Note: In some cases, the edge of the clearing may also be the edge of the right-of-way.) Plantings inside and outside of the Peripheral Zones may need to be removed if they are considered to be hazardous and could become an issue for system reliability or safety.



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For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
Eversource.com

Making Requests for Wood

Property owners whose land falls within the right-of-way to be cleared may retain all or a portion of the wood cleared on the property.

As part of any new transmission line construction project, Eversource must remove vegetation from the transmission line rights-of-way. This vegetation removal facilitates the use of line construction equipment and better ensures the safety of construction crews. Eversource is also required to comply with mandatory federal standards which dictate specific distances that vegetation must be kept from energized conductors for transmission system reliability.

The vegetation clearing process is typically a very noticeable activity associated with the construction of new transmission lines. Clearing in some areas may seem especially significant to public observers either because electric facilities presently may not be using the full width of a right-of-way, or because additional right-of-way widths may have been acquired.

During the vegetation removal process, property owners whose land includes the right-of-way being cleared are offered the opportunity to retain the cut wood for their personal use. Unless otherwise specified in the easement granting the transmission rights-of-way, this document outlines the process by which property owners can request the wood.

Property owners whose land is crossed by a transmission line right-of-way being cleared are eligible to retain all or a portion of the wood from the trees cleared from their property. Wood is provided only for the property owner. It will not be provided for renters, neighbors, friends, family or others who are not the property owner of record.

How to Retain Wood

Eversource compiles a list of property owners whose trees will need to be removed. Prior to the start of clearing, project representatives will inform each property owner of the amount of clearing necessary and the potential for keeping wood. A Wood Information Form must be signed by the property owner at this point.

Before the actual clearing begins, Eversource will review the requests of property owners interested in keeping wood. Agreement will be reached with each owner on the quantity of wood to be left, and the location for that wood. Wood will be left in a mutually agreeable location on the parcel of land from which the trees were removed, within an agreed-upon time period. Please be aware that the wood will be in log lengths, typically 18-22 feet long, and can be placed only in areas not considered wetlands or near rare, threatened, and/or endangered species habitats. The quantity and location of wood cannot be guaranteed and is subject to change based on accessibility, permit requirements, project constructability and maintenance requirements.

If you are a property owner and interested in keeping the wood of the trees cleared from your property, please advise the Eversource project representatives during the initial briefing.

For More Information

TransmissionInfo@eversource.com
800-793-2202
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