



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Lindale REA members have a responsibility for vegetation management around the power distribution system on their respective property. The Electric Services Contract that members sign states that trees are not to be planted in the utility right of way.

A utility right of way (ROW), also known as a utility corridor or power line corridor, is an area of land near a property line that allows access or transit permission to utility companies to perform routine maintenance or emergency repairs to their respective infrastructure. These ROW's can contain underground cables and equipment as well as above-ground equipment such as transformers, power poles and overhead line. It is imperative that the area remain clear of debris and vegetation to accommodate routine and emergency servicing.

Trees are an important part of our landscape. They provide shade, act as shelterbelts and windbreaks, and are beautiful to look at. But trees that are planted too close to power lines or on the utility right of ways significantly increase the risk of power outages and can create serious safety hazards.

Ensuring trees and shrubs are kept at a safe distance from power lines is an important part of maintaining a reliable, safe electrical system which the Lindale REA take very seriously.

If you have a power line on or near your property, it doesn't mean you can't plant trees. Planning ahead so trees won't interfere with power lines no matter how tall they grow. A guideline to follow so your trees won't grow into hazardous areas is:

Tall trees (spruce, pine, maple, Ash, birch, willow) should be planted at least 15 meters away from the power line

Mid-Size trees (Saskatoon, Elder Berry, Caragana, Lilac, and Cherry) should be planted at least 7.5 meters from the power line

Low bushes (High Bush Cranberry, Honeysuckle, Dogwood, Berry Hedges and Roses) should be planted at least 5 meters from the base of the power line.

If you have secondary lines connecting your home or other buildings to a power line, avoid planting trees that will grow into the line. Same considerations should be applied to secondary lines as to the main line corridor when landscaping your property. If you don't see an overhead secondary line to your home or other buildings then the line is underground. Before digging you must contact Alberta One Call to have utility lines marked for your and others safety.

Lindale REA has a well-planned maintenance program that ensures our members are safe and the system is reliable. Regular patrols of the power lines are conducted on a rotation basis. By conducting these patrols and working with the Lindale REA members, hazardous, dead, leaning or trees that have grown into the power line or the utility right of way are identified and removed. This is done to protect our members and ensure that they can depend on a reliable electrical service.

If you see a potential hazard tree or trees please call your REA at 1-877-428-3972