

Customer Update

EVERSOURCE

Utility Arboretums Offer Planting Advice

April 27 is Arbor Day! To help keep our electric system reliable all year long, Eversource's utility arboretums are empowering customers to choose the right vegetation to plant near power lines to help prevent tree-related power outages. An arboretum is a place where trees, shrubs and plants are grown for scientific or educational purposes. Utility arboretums include utility poles with both energized and deenergized electric wires attached, designed to help customers better understand what species of tree to plant, and where to do so safely.



In Connecticut, Eversource and United Illuminating are working with state officials on a proposal for a utility arboretum to be developed on state property in cooperation with the Connecticut Agricultural Cooperative Extension group.

“Our goal is that when a tree is planted, it grows to become an asset and not a liability at maturity,” says Vegetation Management Manager Bob Allen. “Our utility arboretums help increase awareness by educating landscape architects, urban planners, nursery owners, and all of our customers about the variety of viable species that can be planted near utility lines.” For more information on our vegetation management programs, visit Eversource.com and click on Outages & Storms, then Tree Trimming.

Dig, Plant & Work Safely

Whether you're thinking of building a fence, preparing a new area for a garden, or adding a tree to your landscape this spring, be sure to call **8-1-1** before you dig – especially during National Safe Digging Month.

8-1-1 is a free service that can protect you from unintentionally digging into underground utility lines, which can cause harm to you and those around you.

Also, please keep the following tips in mind while outside this spring:

- Plan before you plant. Help prevent outages by planting low-growing trees and shrubs underneath and near power lines. Avoid planting around ground-mounted utility equipment.
- Be sure to keep generators away from windows or doors and have newly purchased generators installed by a licensed electrician.
- Keep ladders, tools, and materials at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines.

For more important safety information, visit Eversource.com.

We're Celebrating Volunteers

Eversource celebrates National Volunteer Month in April. We're proud to support our communities all year long by giving our time and talents to local non-profit organizations throughout our service area.

Our employees and their family members volunteer about 29,000 hours each year, serving the neighborhoods where we work and live.

Eversource salutes and thanks all community volunteers.



Connecting You to Solutions for Saving

- Let the sunshine in! Clean windows and open drapes on sunny days to capture heat from the sun's rays. Remember to close the drapes at night.
- Heating and cooling systems need cleaning, too. Have them serviced in the spring when you're less likely to use them. If the equipment is 10 or more years old, consider replacing it with an ENERGY STAR® model to avoid a breakdown when you really need it.
- Adjust the settings on your programmable or smart thermostat to compensate for warmer temperatures.
- Seal your home to maintain a consistent temperature, increase comfort, and keep dust and pollen out.



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