

# Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

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

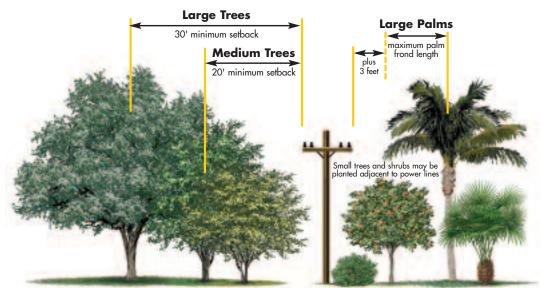
Planting tall growing trees under or near power lines will ultimately require pruning



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

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

Always Consider the Ultimate Mature Size when Planting



Trees Shown at Mature Height

### **Recommended Trees for South Florida:**

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

#### **Geiger Tree**

(Cordia sebestena) This slow growing tree has striking orange blossoms in the spring. Whether multistemmed or with a single trunk, this tree works well as a specimen or patio tree.

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

#### Silver Buttonwood

(Conocarpus erectus var. sericeus) Silver to blue-green foliage provides accent as a small tree or buffer. Multi-stemmed, tough tree adapts well to urban areas.

Growth Rate: Moderate Maturity Height x Spread: 15-20' x 20'-30' Foliage: Evergreen



#### **Spanish Stopper**

(Eugenia spp.) Narrow canopy and the ability to grow in limited soil space makes this tree ideal for parking lot islands and small landscapes. Drought-tolerant once established.



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

#### **Glaucous** Cassia

(Cassia surattensis) Beautiful yellow flowers on an outstanding small tree. Prune to maintain tree form. Ideal for small landscapes as an accent tree.

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



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

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

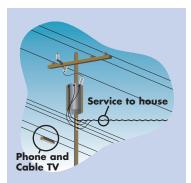
Common Name	Height x Spread	Setback from Power Line	Tree Shape
Bald Cypress	60-80' x 25-30'	30'	Upright & narrow
Brazilian Beautyleaf	30-45' x 30-50'	30'	Spreading canopy
Green Buttonwood	30-40' x 20-30'	30'	Spreading vase
Gumbo Limbo	25-40' x 35-50'	30'	Spreading canopy
Jacaranda	35-40' x 45-60'	30'	Spreading canopy
Live Oak	60-80' x 60 plus feet	30'	Spreading canopy
Mahogany	50' x 50'	30'	Rounded canopy
Paradise Tree	30-50' × 30'	30'	Upright & rounded
Pigeon Plum	20-40' x 20-30'	20'	Upright & rounded
Pink Trumpet Tree	25-35' x 15-25'	20'	Upright oval
Royal Poinciana	25-40' x 50 plus feet	30'	Rounded & spreading
Satinleaf	25-40' x 25'	30'	Upright vase shaped
South Florida Slash Pine	35-50' x 30-40'	30'	Upright & slightly spreading
Wild Tamarind	40-60' x 45'	30'	Weeping spreading

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

#### **Problem Trees**

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

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



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

#### Make sure there are no buried wires before digging in the spot for your new tree. Customers are asked to call Sunshine State One Call at 1-800-432-4770 before digging in an area with underground services. Within 2 full business days of notice a utility representative will inspect the property



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

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