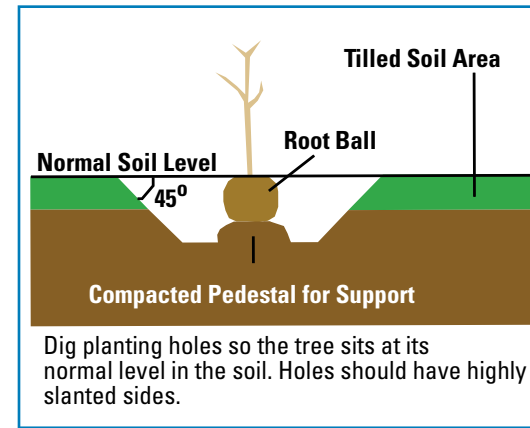


Give Your New Tree a Good Start

Getting trees started correctly is critical to long tree life, easy care and low-cost maintenance. Trees with limited rooting areas will need more care and have a shorter life span than trees with large soil areas in which to grow.

The diameter of the planting hole should be at least three times the diameter of the root ball. The depth should be measured to ensure the tree is planted at ground level and at the same depth at which it grew in the nursery. All bindings, ties, wires, burlap or other wrapping should be removed before planting.

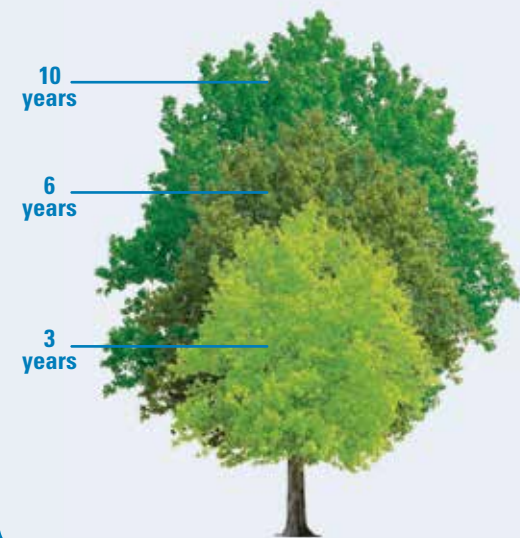


Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place



Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

Always Consider the Ultimate Mature Size When Planning

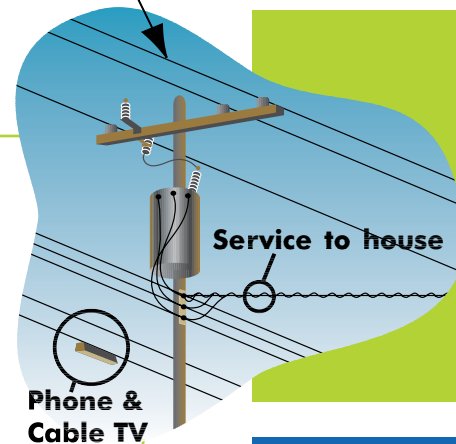


When planting, please consider where the tree will be located in relation to overhead and underground utility lines. (The location of these lines should determine the kind of tree to plant and site selection.) The mature tree must have enough space away from power lines and in an area large enough to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

Primary Electrical Conductors

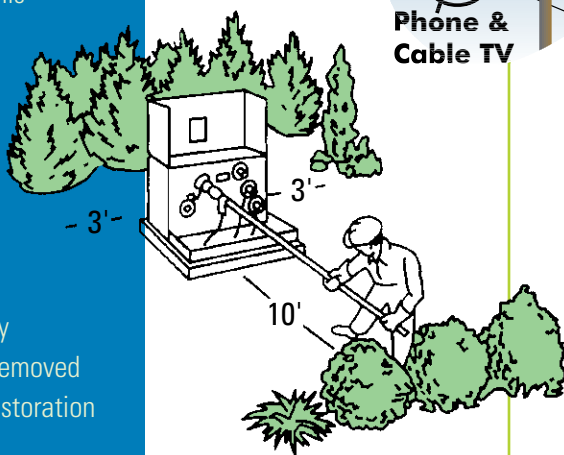


Electric lines usually are located at the top of the pole, farthest from the ground. Cable TV and telephone lines run closer to the ground, below power lines.

Transformers for Underground Utilities

We need room to work safely on this device. Please keep shrubs and structures 10 feet away from the front and 3 feet from other sides.

Obstructions may be damaged or removed during service restoration or maintenance.



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

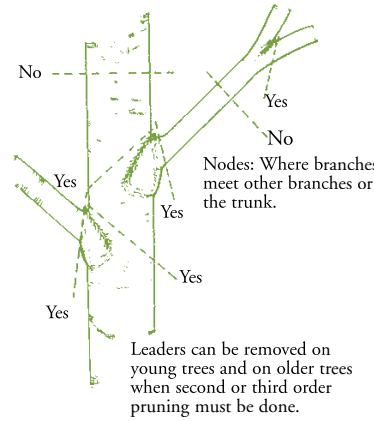
Customers are asked to call the Utilities Protection Center at **811** before digging in an area with underground services. Within 2 full business days of notice, a utility representative will inspect the property to locate and mark any buried wires. *There is no charge for this service.*



Pruning Tips

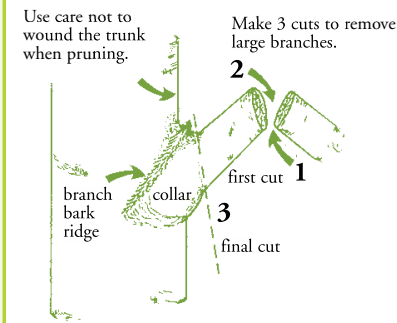
Drawings used with permission of Shigo and Trees, Associates LLC.

Cut at Nodes



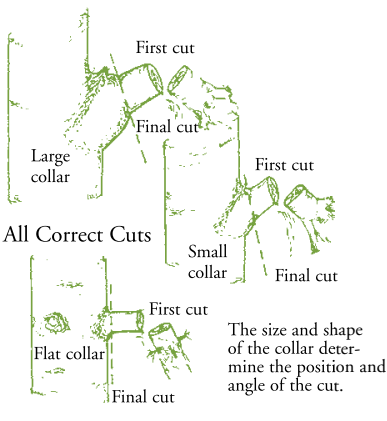
Making cuts between nodes leads to excessive sprouting, and to cracks and rot. Cracks and rot are major causes of branch and trunk failure.

Natural Target Pruning



Use care not to wound the trunk when pruning. Make 3 cuts to remove large branches. Cut as close as possible to the branch collar. Do not injure or remove the collar. Injury or removal of the collar destroys a major defense system of the tree, and also leads to excessive sprouting. Do not leave stubs. Stubs are entry courts for rot-causing fungi. Do not paint the pruning cuts. Wound dressings do not stop rot.

No Set Angle for a Correct Cut



- Prune flowering trees just after they flower. Pruning before flowering removes flower buds.
- Prune maples and birch in mid-summer.
- Prune dead or dying branches anytime.
- Use sharp tools. Make clean cuts. Be careful with all tools. Safety first.

Benefits of Natural Target Pruning

- Biologically better for the tree
- Sprouting is minimized
- Growth is directed away from the lines
- Less material may be removed in future pruning events
- It creates a safer environment for the community

Drawbacks of Natural Target Pruning

- Initial pruning may not be aesthetically pleasing
- More material may be removed
- It takes more time to implement

For more information, contact the organizations below.

Customer Care Center
1.800.532.1502

Mississippi Urban Forest Council
www.msurbanforest.com

Mississippi Forestry Commission
www.mfc.ms.gov

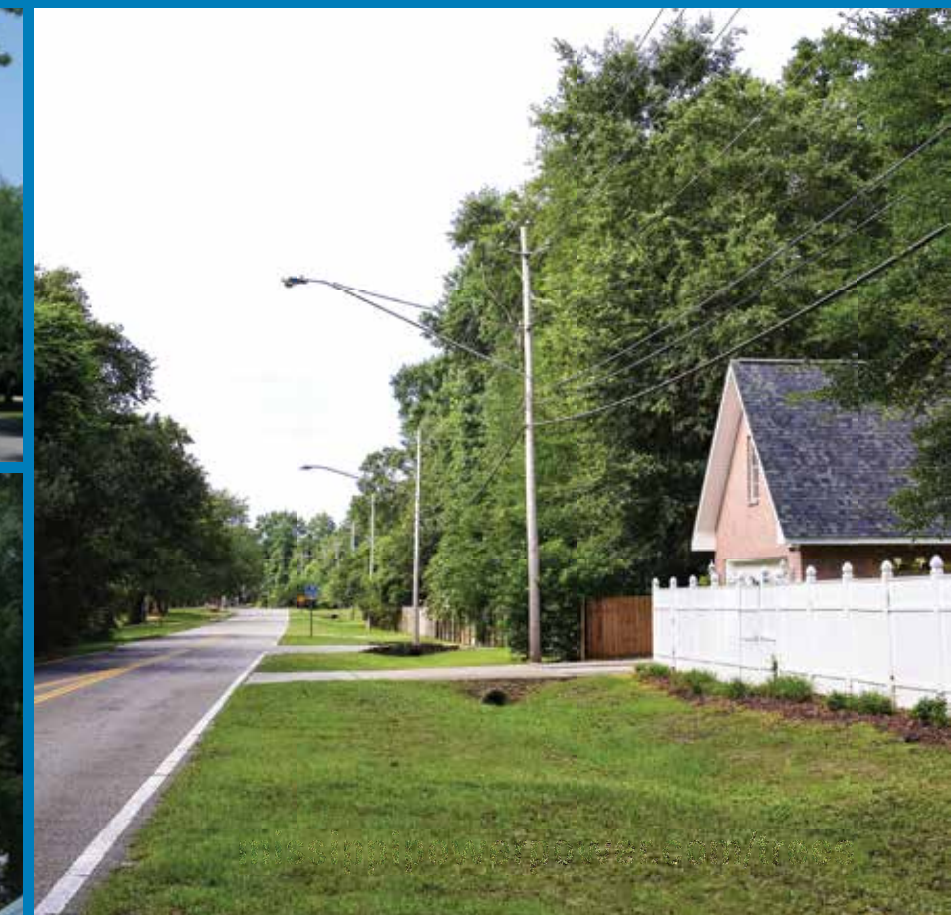
International Society of Arboriculture
www.isa-arbor.com

National Arbor Day Foundation
www.arborday.org

Professional Arborist Association of Mississippi
www.paam-ms.com

Southern Chapter of International Society of Arboriculture
www.isasouthern.org

Mississippi State Extension Service
www.msucare.com



At Mississippi Power, we are responsible for providing safe and reliable energy to our customers at the lowest cost possible. We also believe we have a corporate responsibility to provide our customers with other valuable services that may be unrelated to generating electricity.

In the distribution organization, for example, we want to help our customers make the right decisions about planting trees – where to plant, what to plant, how to

plant – and anything else related to preserving your trees to create attractive landscapes in our communities. Distribution Rights of Way (ROWs) are commonplace in our communities and are the means by which we deliver energy to homes and businesses. The images above are examples of what such a ROW may look like. We hope this brochure helps you with your tree-planting decisions as they relate to our distribution ROWs.

Choosing the Best Planting Location

Research and planning are essential before planting a tree. Good intentions can often turn into disappointments and lead to serious problems. Cracked foundations, drives and sidewalks, clogged sewers, and power outages are commonly the result of a misplaced tree.

Planting trees is an investment in your property. Selecting the best trees for your yard is an important decision. To avoid future problems, decide what type of tree you want for your landscape. Always select and plant trees with their mature height and spread in mind. Many varieties of trees are available: tall, short, shade, ornamental, evergreen, deciduous, etc. Some require full sunlight, and some must be grown in partial shade.

Trees can be used to promote energy savings. Deciduous trees planted on the south and southwest sides of your home will provide shade. Evergreens planted to the north and northwest divert winter winds.

Begin by sketching your yard. Indicate all structures, above and below ground utilities, and existing plants. Identify the area where you want to plant new trees. Determine the space needed for each tree's mature height and canopy spread by consulting with your local nursery, extension service or library.

Avoid planting large-growing trees in confined areas and under or nearby overhead utility wires. Trees and shrubs must not be planted over underground











distribution lines or within 10 feet of the front or 3 feet from the sides of transformers for underground utilities.

Mulch should spread over an area at least two times larger than the planting hole.

Most new trees do not need to be staked. Stakes and guys are used to prevent the tree from falling over as a result of root ball slippage in high winds. A small tree must be able to move in the wind and flex from its base for proper development.

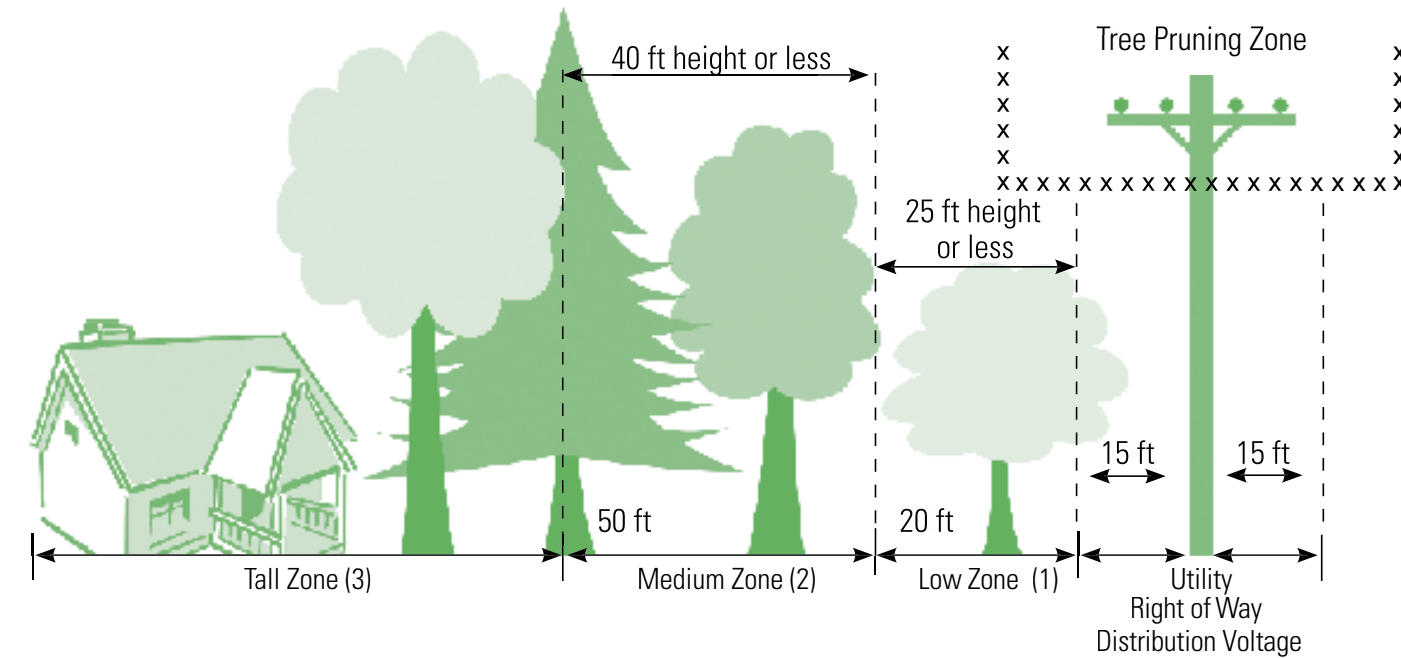
You should not add fertilizers or do any pruning except for the removal of dead or dying branches for the first growing season.

Questions to Ask Before Selecting a Tree

-  **Why are you planting the tree?**
Do you want shade, screening, spring flowers, fall color or simply something green?
-  **What will be the size of the tree at maturity?**
Does the tree have room to grow in width as well as in height?
-  **Will the tree form an upright, round or spreading crown?**
-  **Will the tree bear any undesirable fruit or flowers? Or, will it produce any large seed crops that will litter the yard?**
-  **Will the tree survive in the local climate and soil?**
-  **Is the tree strong enough to bear loads of ice and wind without breakage?**
-  **Is the tree relatively resistant to insects and disease?**
-  **Will the size of the tree complement your home's architecture?** For example, some very large trees can make a ranch house look out of proportion.
-  **What effect could the tree have on utility lines both above and below the ground?**
-  **Could the tree be an inconsiderate choice?**
Will it shade your neighbor's roses or hang over on their property?

Planting Guide

Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place
Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines



The above diagram is Copyrighted by © The Southern Chapter of the ISA and is reprinted with the permission of The Southern Chapter of the ISA.

Tall Zone (3)

You may use larger types of trees in zone 3, including trees that grow 60 feet in height, but you should consider your neighbor's view and landscaping. Plant large trees at least 35 feet away from the house for proper root development and to minimize possible tree damage to your house or building. Higher trees could be used in any location 50 feet or more from power lines. Trees near your house can provide energy benefits by providing cooling shade in summer and giving protection from winter winds.

Medium Zone (2)

This zone is for trees that grow no taller than 40 feet and includes your lawn area. Landscaping should decorate or frame your home instead of hiding it from sight. Select trees first, then plant shrubs to complement the trees. Trees that grow no more than 40 feet in height are recommended for areas adjacent to the low zone to avoid branches that overhang power lines or trees that could topple over into the lines during severe storms.

Low Zone (1)

These are plant species that will not exceed 25 feet in height in the area adjacent to the Utility Right of Way. Taller existing trees in this zone will be pruned by the utility company to grow away from the lines. (In some cases, trees may be considered for removal by the utility company.)

Utility Right Of Way

The minimum clearance distance determined by the local utility company must be kept clear of trees, shrubs and vines to provide safe access for utility workers (and to avoid damage to landscaping when maintenance or repairs are needed). It is important to note that high-voltage transmission lines require a larger clearance zone. A utility representative can assist in determining if a high-voltage line is located on the right of way adjacent to customers' property. Call our Customer Care Center at **1.800.532.1502** to get further information.

Planting Zones

Recommended Planting List by Planting Zone

Species	Botanical Name	Planting Zone	Species	Botanical Name	Planting Zone
Apricot, Japanese	Prunus mume	1, 2, 3	Holly, Myrtle	Ilex myrtifolia	1, 2, 3
Azalea	Rhododendron spp.	1, 2, 3	Holly, Nellie R. Stevens	Ilex aquifolium x ilex cornuta	1, 2, 3
Bottlebrush Buckeye	Aesculus parviflora	1, 2, 3	Holly, Yaupon	Ilex vomitoria	1, 2, 3
Boxwood, Common	Buxus sempervirens	1, 2, 3	Hoptree	Ptelea trifoliata	1, 2, 3
Buttonbush, Common	Cephalanthus occidentalis	1, 2, 3	Hydrangea	Hydrangea macrophylla	1, 2, 3
Camellia	Camellia spp.	1, 2, 3	Lilac, Common	Syringa vulgaris	1, 2, 3
Chastetree	Vitex agnus-castus	1, 2, 3	Magnolia, Saucer	Magnolia x soulangina	1, 2, 3
Chinese fringe-flower	Loropetalum chinense var.	1, 2, 3	Magnolia, Star	Magnolia stellata	1, 2, 3
Crapemyrtle	Lagerstroemia spp.	1, 2, 3	Maple, Japanese	Acer palmatum	1, 2, 3
Fothergilla	Fothergilla major	1, 2, 3	Olive, Fragrant	Osmanthus fragrans	1, 2, 3
Fringe Tree	Chionanthus virginicus	1, 2, 3	Olive, Tea	Osmanthus fragrans	1, 2, 3
Fringe Tree, Chinese	Chionanthus retusus	1, 2, 3	Olive, Holly Tea	Osmanthus heterophyllus	1, 2, 3
Dogwood	Cornus spp.	1, 2, 3	Persimmon, Japanese	Diospyros kaki	1, 2, 3
Dogwood, Corneliancherry	Cornus mas	1, 2, 3	Pomegranate	Punica granatum	1, 2, 3
Firethorn, Formosa	Pyracantha koidzumii	1, 2, 3	Serviceberry	Amelanchier spp.	1, 2, 3
Firethorn, Laland	Pyracantha coccinea 'Lalandei'	1, 2, 3	Smoketree	Cotinus	1, 2, 3
Flowering Crabapple	Malus spp.	1, 2, 3	Snowbell tree	Styrax spp.	1, 2, 3
Forsythia	Forsythia spp.	1, 2, 3	Sparkleberry Tree	Vaccinium arboreum	1, 2, 3
Holly, Brilliant	Ilex x aquipernyi 'Brilliant'	1, 2, 3	Ternstroemia, Jade Tiara	Ternstroemia gymnanthera	1, 2, 3
Holly, Burford	Ilex cornuta 'Burford'	1, 2, 3	Viburnum	Viburnum spp.	1, 2, 3
Holly, Cassine or Dahoon	Ilex cassine	1, 2, 3	Waxmyrtle	Myrica spp.	1, 2, 3
Holly, Chinese	Ilex cornuta	1, 2, 3	Winterberry, Common	Ilex verticillata	1, 2, 3
Holly, Emily Bruner	Ilex x Emily Bruner	1, 2, 3	Witchhazel	Hamamelis spp.	1, 2, 3
Holly, Foster #2	Ilex x attenuata	1, 2, 3	Yew, Southern	Podocarpus macrophyllus	1, 2, 3
Holly, Lusterleaf	Ilex latifolia	1, 2, 3			

Distribution lines feed electricity to homes and businesses. This recommended planting list is intended for use near our distribution rights of way only.

Mississippi Power understands the desire of property owners to maintain plantings on the portions of their properties located within Mississippi Power Right of Way (ROW). However, the provision of reliable electric service must remain paramount. The permission for plantings set forth in this guide may be modified or revoked, in whole or in part, at any time and from time to time by Mississippi Power, in its sole discretion. Current and future rules, regulations and orders of Federal and State authorities may also be applicable to and restrict or prohibit plantings. In connection with any such restriction, prohibition, modification or revocation, whether by Mississippi Power or pursuant to such rules, regulations or orders, Mississippi Power reserves the right to require trimming or removal, at Mississippi Power's sole discretion, of plantings previously permitted, whether under this guide or otherwise. No rights to maintain any planting will result from reliance on this guide.