

The Right Tree For the Right Place

Tree Planting Precautions

When siting trees during landscaping be sure to consider overhead power lines and underground utilities in addition to fire hazard, sun exposure and soil conditions before deciding what plant goes where.

The best way to prevent conflicts between trees and power lines is to plant the “right tree in the right place.” Though some large trees grow under power lines

naturally, many are planted there because people don't realize how large they will get. Remember that a four foot tall, two foot wide tree might end up being 60 feet tall and 30 feet across. Avoid planting trees of any size directly under main power supply lines since utility crews may need access to these areas as part of routine maintenance. Small trees (up to 20 feet tall) can be planted adjacent to power lines but off to one side.

Medium or large trees should be spaced 20 to 30 feet horizontally from power lines.

Visit selecttree.calpoly.edu or pge.com/trees for assistance with tree selections.

