

Transmission Line Rights-of-Way

National Grid has the legal responsibility to provide safe and reliable electric service. In both New York and New England, public service laws establish responsibility and accountability for providing efficient, safe and reliable power within certain quality parameters.

Trees and Transmission Lines

Trees and transmission lines are not compatible. Trees that grow too close to electric transmission lines can conduct electricity and provide a path to ground, potentially causing an interruption and other significant consequences. Trees do not have to physically touch an energized power line to be dangerous. Electricity can arc or jump from a power line to nearby vegetation.

In addition to causing an interruption, this can also cause a wildfire and is very dangerous. Electric current flowing through a tree can electrocute anyone in close proximity.

Therefore, assuring trees remain clear of transmission lines is not only vital for service reliability but it is a crucial public and worker safety issue.

Right-of-Way Floor Vegetation Management

National Grid utilizes a program called Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) to establish and foster low-growing vegetative plant communities that, in turn, require minimal maintenance and create numerous benefits for the environment.

National Grid uses herbicides to selectively remove tall-growing tree species from the rights-of-way. The remaining low-growing plant communities provide a stable vegetative cover resistant to the re-establishment of tall-growing vegetation. This also provides improved access, erosion control and improved wildlife habitat.

The IVM program focuses on complete removal of tall-growing vegetation. Pruning or topping vegetation is a short-term measure that does not provide the same benefits as removal. Topped vegetation poses a higher risk to reliability, safety and does nothing to foster a stable, desirable plant community as the

topped trees vigorously sprout back and shade out the desirable plants.

Right-of-Way Edge Danger Tree Program

Our goal is to continually improve service reliability. To this end, trees that are growing along the edges of the right-of-way corridors are periodically pruned or removed.

Targeted edge trees are those with hazardous structural defects (e.g., cracks, cavities, decay, poor limb attachments) or are species with a history of failure (e.g., poplars, white pine). Research and experience have shown that it is prudent to remove these trees before they cause an interruption.

As the work is carried out, our crews will make every reasonable attempt to protect private property. Disruption to livestock, roadways, soil, fences and gates are avoided as much as possible. Any damages are repaired within a reasonable amount of time after the disturbance.

Cut tree branches are diced close to the ground and left to decompose. Stumps are cut as low to the ground as practicable. Any useable wood, such as larger limbs and/or logs, remains along the right-of-way edge for the landowner.



Landowner Use of Transmission Rights-of-Way

Due to the potential safety and operational issues cited earlier in this brochure, it is imperative that National Grid manage its rights-of-ways to ensure that only compatible uses are allowed. Existing land uses such as cropland, gardens, lawns, pastureland and planting of low-growing trees and shrubs are compatible with our transmission line rights-of-way. However any new or expanded usage within any right-of-way requires the prior written authorization of National Grid. Please contact the Transmission Forester in your area to discuss plants that will be suitable for your site.

Unauthorized use of National Grid's transmission rights-of-way such as planting tall growing trees, cutting or pruning trees, constructing structures, stockpiling materials, excavating or operating heavy equipment all pose a threat to reliability as well as personal and public safety. Unauthorized use could result in the removal of structures or other personal property at the expense of the property owner.

We ask that prior to engaging in such activities on our transmission rights-of-way that landowners contact National Grid's Real Estate Department to discuss and review the proposed activity. This notification is required to prevent future dangerous conflicts with the electric transmission lines and possibly save lives.

Landowner Cooperation

Landowner cooperation is critical to the success of National Grid's vegetation management programs. In order to keep its transmission corridors safe and to prevent injury, property damage, environmental damage and unauthorized use of rights-of-way, National Grid attempts to communicate and cooperates with owners for crew access, maintenance activities, tree removal and security. National Grid also realizes the importance of understanding the needs and sensitivities of all property owners.

Work is scheduled for the transmission line right-of-way that is adjacent to or crosses your property.

This brochure provides landowners with information about vegetation maintenance activities used by National Grid.

National Grid continues to promote safety near **all** transmission lines and respects the property of others by providing notification of our activities and by addressing landowner concerns as they arise.

National Grid

National Grid provides the transmission of electric power to 3.5 million customers across New York State and New England.

Vegetation maintenance is critical to ensuring electric reliability and safety.

Regular patrols and periodic maintenance help to keep the lines free of vegetation that could potentially cause a power outage or endanger persons living or working near electric transmission lines.

Still have questions?

Customer Service

Upstate NY 1-800-642-4272

New England 1-800-322-3223

Or e-mail us at:

transmissionforestry@us.ngrid.com

www.nationalgridus.com

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This is an important notice.
Please have it translated.

Este é um aviso importante. Queira mandá-lo traduzir.
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Avis important. Veuillez traduire immédiatement.

Questa è un' informazione importante, si prega di tradurla.

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Это очень важное сообщение.
Пожалуйста, попросите чтобы
вам его перевели.

nationalgrid

THE POWER OF ACTION

Information for

Landowners Along Our Transmission Lines



www.nationalgridus.com