



MONTANA-DAKOTA

UTILITIES CO.

A Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

In the Community to Serve[®]



800-638-3278

www.montana-dakota.com

Before planting, give your new tree its best chance for a long, healthy life. Choose where you plant a tree wisely, with careful thought for the future. Every tree has an approximate maturity height. When choosing a site for planting, think of how high your tree will grow.

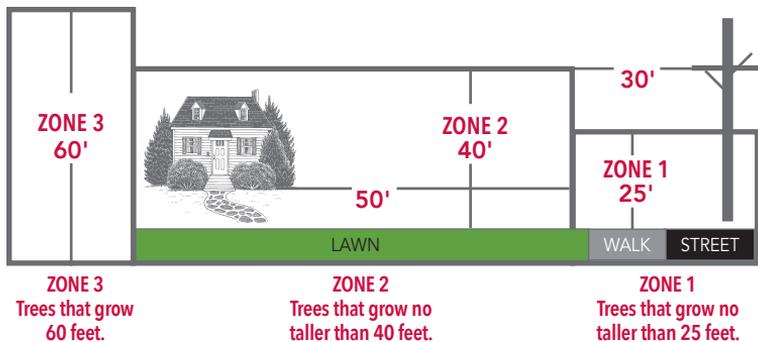
- ▶ Will it disturb power lines?
- ▶ The roof of your home?
- ▶ Your neighbor's yard?
- ▶ Is it too close to a street or driveway?

More than 80% of outages are caused by tree limbs during storms.

A tree planted in the wrong place could mean trouble later.

With careful planning, you can help avoid outages and keep your lights and appliances operating. When planting a tree near power lines, follow the distance guidelines illustrated below. You might consider alternative vegetation such as shrubbery or smaller, flowering trees.

For more information on what type of vegetation you should plant to avoid interference with power lines, ask your nurseryman or county extension agent.



POSTING ITEMS TO UTILITY POLES CREATES SAFETY RISKS

If you are planning a garage sale, open house or other event, **remember that posting signs to utility poles is not allowed and creates a safety risk.**

Signs posted on utility poles often leave nails, staples or tacks that are a danger to MDU line workers who need to climb these poles. The clamped safety boots used by line workers to climb poles are vulnerable to becoming snagged on staples and nails embedded in the poles. These objects also can tear utility workers' protective clothing, which is their first line of protection from an electric shock.

Thank you for helping us keep our employees safe!

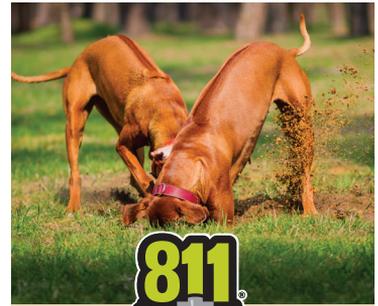


Spring has arrived and now is the time homeowners are planning landscaping projects. A well-designed landscape not only adds beauty to your home and yard, it can also help you save energy. Carefully placed trees can provide shade from the hot summer sun and save on your home's summer cooling costs. For best results, plant large deciduous trees (trees that shed their leaves annually) on the east and west sides of your home. Deciduous trees block solar heat in the summer months, but let sunlight in during the winter.

Shading is the most cost-effective way to reduce solar heat gain in your home and cut air conditioning costs. To effectively shade your home, you need to know the size, shape and location of the shadow that your shading device casts.

FACT: In tree-shaded neighborhoods, the summer daytime air temperature can be up to 6 degrees cooler than in treeless areas.

Information from Energy.gov



**SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.
EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.**



U.S. Department
of Transportation



JOHN DEERE



Common
Ground
Alliance



**ONE FREE, EASY CALL GETS
UTILITY LINES MARKED &
HELPS PROTECT YOU FROM
INJURY AND EXPENSE.**

Whether you are a professional excavator or a do-it-yourselfer, remember **811 Before You Dig.**



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