

# Plan for the Future When Planting a Tree

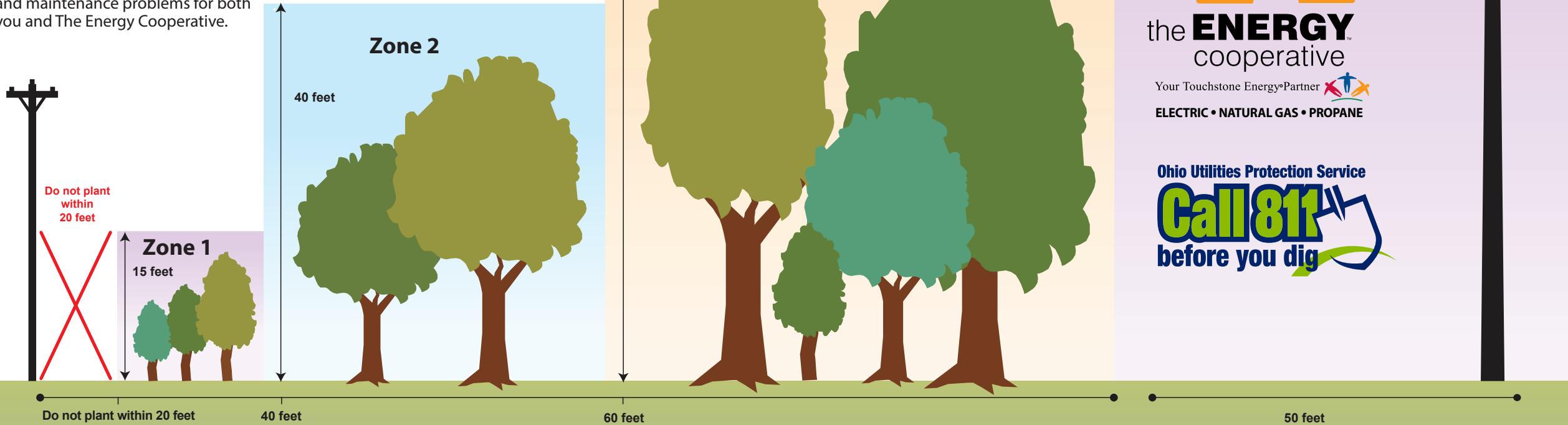
**At The Energy Cooperative our number one goal is SAFETY.** Trees can conduct electricity and create a safety hazard if limbs grow too close to electric lines. Power outages or flickers can occur when trees or tree branches come into contact with overhead lines. Electrical arcing from a wire to a nearby branch can cause fires. But a much greater concern is the safety risk when children climb trees near power lines. Accidental contact of electric wires with a tree limb or person playing or trimming around the tree could be **FATAL**.

Trees growing near power lines must be pruned to maintain a safe distance from the wires. If you have trees that appear to be growing into power lines, contact The Energy Cooperative at 1-800-255-6815. Never try to prune them yourself. Utilities have skilled professionals trained to safely prune and trim trees for electric line clearances.

**Look up before you plant.** At its mature height, a tree planted under or too close to a power line can cause power outages and potential costly trimming and maintenance problems for both you and The Energy Cooperative.

## Tip to Remember:

Allow at least one foot of clearance for every one foot of height the tree will reach when fully mature.



**Zone 1— (Utility Easement Area) Small Trees and Shrubs.** Zone 1 is the utility easement area. It is better to not plant in this area. If you do, plant 20 feet away from any side of a power line. Shrubs or a tree height of no higher than 15 feet when mature is recommended.

**Zone 2 — Medium Trees**  
Zone 2 is the area 40 feet away from any side of the power line. For this zone, a tree height of no higher than 40 feet when fully mature is recommended.

**Zone 3 — Tall or Large Trees**  
Zone 3 is the area 60 feet away from any side of the power line. For this zone, a tree height of 40 feet and higher when fully mature is recommended.

**Underground Lines**  
The biggest danger to both you and underground lines occurs during tree planting. At least two work days prior to digging, call the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) by simply dialing **811** or 1-800-362-2764.

**Transmission Lines:**  
Unlike the power lines located in most neighborhoods, transmission lines use much taller poles and carry much greater voltage. If your property is near a transmission line, please leave the area within 50 feet of the transmission line clear of any trees.



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner   
ELECTRIC • NATURAL GAS • PROPANE

