

TREES AND POWER LINES DON'T MIX

It is dangerous to let trees grow close to power lines — here's why

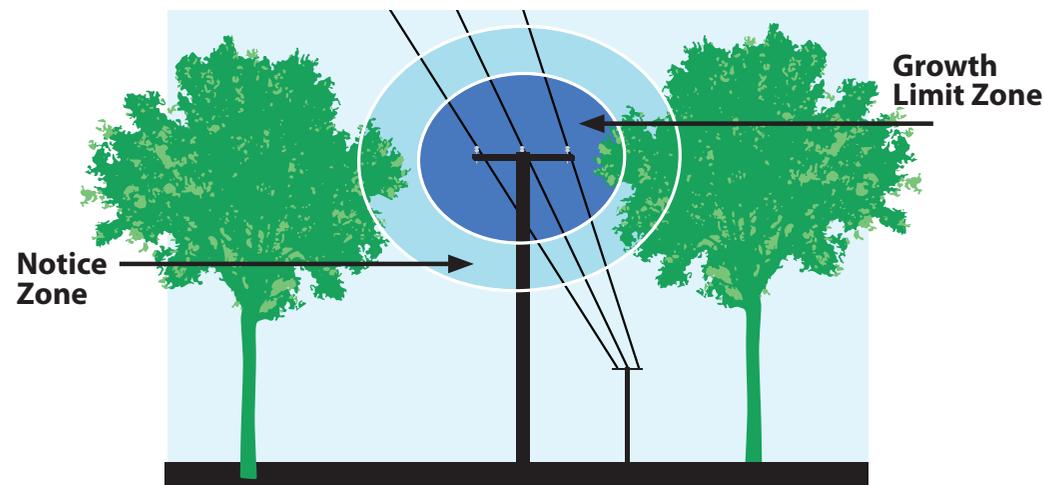
- You can cause a power cut if a tree or branch falls onto a power line
- Power poles and lines can be damaged by a tree or branch falling onto them
- A fire can be started by a tree or branch falling onto power lines
- You can get a severe electric shock if you cut trees close to live power lines
- Electricity can arc (jump) so you can get an electric shock even if you don't touch a power line!

There are rules about safe distances between trees and power lines

The Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations state you must not let your trees get too close to power lines — too close means inside the GROWTH LIMIT ZONE.

When our vegetation surveyors see a tree that has grown into the Growth Limit Zone they will send you a 'Cut or Trim Notice' with an information sheet informing you that your tree needs to be either trimmed to a clearance OUTSIDE the NOTICE zone or felled.

If you receive a 'Cut or Trim Notice' please read the information carefully and contact us if you need advice on your options.



Overhead Line	Notice Zone	Growth Limit Zone
66kV (66,000 Volts) High Voltage	5.0 metres	4.0 metres
33kV (33,000 Volts) High Voltage	3.5 metres	2.5 metres
11kV (11,000 Volts) High Voltage	2.6 metres	1.6 metres
LV (400 Volts) Low Voltage	1.5 metres	0.5 metres

This table gives the clearances needed between the closest part of a tree and power lines. The clearance needed will increase for long spans of lines. Contact us if you want to check the voltage of power lines near you.

DON'T BE TEMPTED TO TRIM OR FELL THE TREES YOURSELF!

Only use Tree Contractors that are certified and approved to work near live power lines to trim or fell trees that have grown into the Growth Limit Zone. This is for your safety. It is also a Worksafe requirement. Certified contractors are Utility Arborists that are specifically trained to work on trees close to live power lines. They know the safety procedures required and have the specialised tools needed for the job.

APPROVED TREE CONTRACTORS

There are two tree contractors in the Nelson Tasman area that are certified and approved to cut trees that have grown into the Growth Limit Zone:

TREESCAPE 03 544 0588 scott.barker@treescape.co.nz

NELMAC 03 546 0910 service@nelmac.co.nz

We welcome applications from other tree contractors and will update our website if others become approved.

If you repeatedly ignore a Cut or Trim Notice we will refer you to Worksafe. They can fine you up to \$10,000 plus \$500 for each day that you continue to ignore them.

BE RESPONSIBLE — check your trees regularly and keep them trimmed so they stay clear of power lines

For further information contact our
Vegetation Department 0800 508 098
or trees@networktasman.co.nz

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