



# Right Tree,

# Right Place

**Working with SCE to  
keep your yard  
green, and safe**

Trees and power lines don't mix. Trees can grow into power lines, and during storms, branches can blow into power lines, or snap off, creating a dangerous condition or causing a power outage.

At Southern California Edison, we care about trees, and you. We want you to enjoy the beauty, serenity and cooling that trees provide. But we also want you to have a safe yard and reliable power. So please review this brochure to see how we can work together to ensure that your trees, and our power lines, don't mix.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
**EDISON**<sup>®</sup>

An EDISON INTERNATIONAL<sup>®</sup> Company

## Planting new trees?

If you're planting a new tree, please consider where you are placing it and what it will look like in 10 or 20 years. Look up from the proposed place where it will be planted and see if there are wires overhead or nearby. We ask that trees within 20 feet of a power line be of a type that grow no more than 25 feet tall. Trees 20 to 50 feet from a power line should not grow more than 40 feet tall. Those growing taller than 40 feet should be planted more than 50 feet from power lines.

Palm trees are a major source of power interruptions; most grow much higher than utility poles. Wind and rain can loosen dead palm fronds that can fall or sail hundreds of feet, landing on power lines, where they can catch fire and fall on wood shake roofs or cause service interruptions. Palm trees should not be planted within 50 feet of power lines. One exception is the Windmill palm, shown here, that has a mature height of 25 feet.

## Preventing fires

The California Department of Forestry requires utilities to maintain greater tree limb clearances from power lines in high fire-designated areas. Tree limbs touching power lines can burn and drop hot embers during certain conditions. To help prevent fires, Edison asks that no new trees, bushes or weeds be planted or allowed to grow within 10 feet of any power pole.

Also, don't forget to check regarding underground utilities when you dig the hole to plant your tree.

# Here is a sampling of the trees that Edison recommends you plant

*Bauhinia blakeana*



*Hong Kong Orchid*

*Callistemon citrinus*



*Lemon Bottlebrush*

*Chitalpa tashkentensis*



*Chitalpa*

*Cercis canadensis*



*Eastern Redbud*

*Cassia leptophylla*



*Gold Medallion*

*Metrosideros excelsus*



*New Zealand Christmas Tree*

*Eucalyptus torquata*



*Coral (Goldfields) Gum*

*Tristania laurina*



*Water Gum*

*Stenocarpus sinuatus*



*Firewheel*

*Koelreuteria  
paniculata*



*Goldenrain*

*Lagerstroemia indica*



*Crape Myrtle*

*Photinia fraseri*



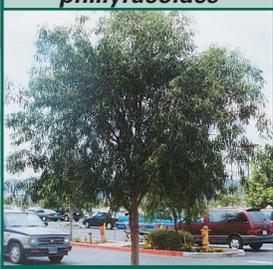
*Photinia*

*Eriobotrya deflexa*



*Bronze Loquat*

*Pittosporum  
phillyraeoides*



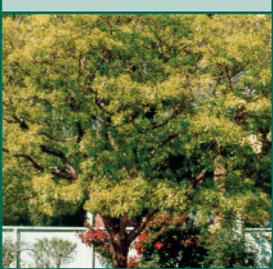
*Narrow-Leaved (Willow)  
Pittosporum*

*Pyrus kawakamii*



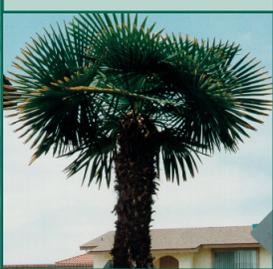
*Evergreen Pear*

*Chionanthus retusus*



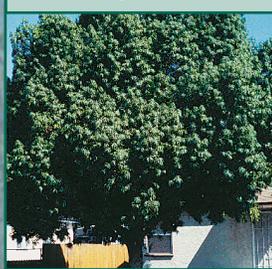
*Chinese Fringe*

*Trachycarpus fortunei*



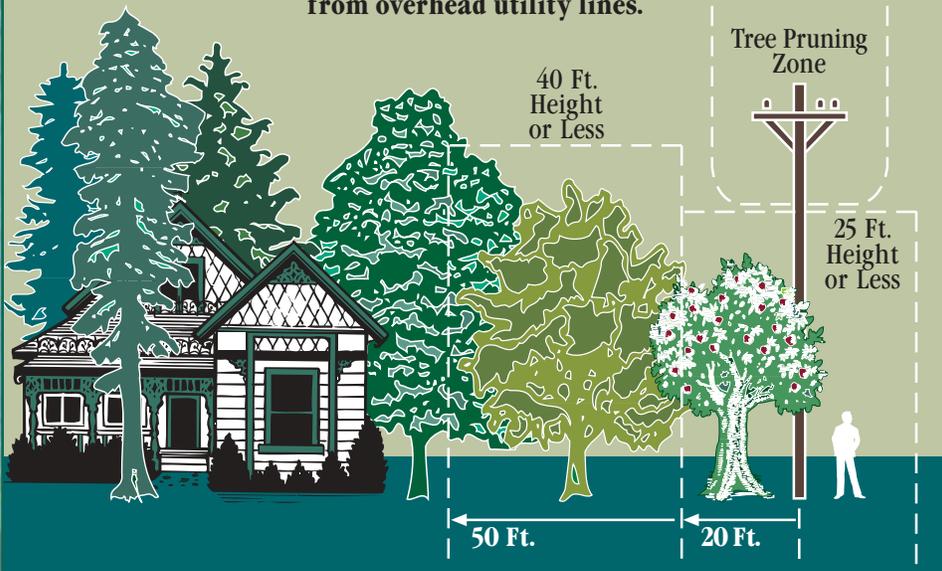
*Windmill Palm*

*Podocarpus henkelii*



*Long-Leaved  
Yellow Wood*

Taller trees should be planted away from overhead utility lines.



## Trimming trees?

SCE is mandated by the state's Public Utilities Commission to trim trees, and we hire qualified line-clearance arborists who do this for us. Each year, these crews trim over 750,000 trees at a cost of \$28 million.

Our aim is to only trim each existing tree once a year. Therefore, depending on the type of tree and how quickly it grows, the crews trim it in a fashion that will best ensure the tree does not threaten safety or electrical reliability during that time. Call SCE if you have concerns about trees in this right-of-way.

If you wish to trim a tree growing around the power line that runs from the pole to your house, or want to have it trimmed by a professional contractor, please contact us two days before you plan to trim — if you have any concerns, our linemen may de-energize and safely move these pole-to-house power lines out of the way so there is no risk of your coming into contact with them, or of branches falling into them.

When you are working in your yard and in proximity to power lines, please be careful — especially when carrying tall, aluminum ladders, pool skimmers or metal picking or pruning equipment.

Also, please teach children to be careful — about releasing metallic balloons or flying kites that may come into contact with power lines, and about climbing or playing in trees near or touching wires. Tree houses should not be built within 20 feet of power lines.

Tree photos provided by:  
Street Tree Seminar, Inc.  
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## Other questions?

Call us at:  
**1-800-684-8123**

or contact us at:  
[www.sce.com/](http://www.sce.com/)

with your questions or concerns.

