Right Tree
Right Place

Tree Planning
& Planting Guide

A simple reference to help you choose
the right tree and the right location to
plant it, if planting near power lines.

CLASS I TREES

Cherry, Japanese Flowering

Spread 15–25 ft.
Form Vase shaped

Deep pink flowers bloom in late spring. Good fall color.

Crabapple

Spread 15–25 ft.
Form Upright, spreading

Flowers in pink, red or white. Thick heavy foliage holds its color in the fall. Small fruit.

Goldenraintree

Spread 30–35 ft.
Form Rounded, spreading

Large clusters of small yellow flowers. Foliage is bright green, turning yellow-orange in the fall.

Hawthorne

Spread 10–25 ft.
Form Rounded, upright

Spring flowers followed by fruit that hold in winter. Glossy green leaves turning bright colors in the fall.

Hedge Maple

Spread 20–30 ft.
Form Rounded, upright or spreading

Green spring flowers. Dense shade in summer. Dark green leaves in summer, turn gold in fall.

Vanderwolf Pine

Spread 20 ft.
Form Pyramid

Long twisted blue-green needles displayed on dense branches.

Mountain Ash

Spread 15–20 ft.
Form Oval or rounded

Showy white flowers in spring, medium green leaves turn gold in the fall. Moderately dense shade in summer.

Serviceberry

Spread 15–20 ft.
Form Irregular, low, shrubby

Upright, white and light pink flowers in early spring, followed by sweet, purplish-black berries. Yellow to orange fall color.

Plum, Flowering

Spread 10–20 ft.
Form Rounded

Reddish-purple foliage with light pink spring flowers. Purple fruit is one-inch in diameter.

Redbud, Eastern

Spread 20–25 ft.
Form Broad, open, irregular

Clusters of purple-pink flowers in spring. Leaves initially reddish-purple, then dark green in summer.

CLASS I TREES

Class I trees are safe to plant near power lines because of their low height, growing no taller than 25 feet.

CLASS II TREES

Class II trees, growing no taller than 40 feet, should not be planted any closer than 25 feet from power lines, depending on the mature spread of the tree.

CLASS III TREES

Class III trees grow to 60 feet or taller. Large trees like these should be planted at least 35 feet away from the house for proper root development and to minimize tree damage to houses or other buildings.

Because different trees have different mature heights, give special attention to where you plant each tree. Planting the right tree in the right place will enhance property value and prevent costly trimming or damage to your home.

Good landscaping also will use shrubs and low-growing trees that are compatible with existing or future electric utility lines. Low-growing trees will not reach electric lines and won't jeopardize electric reliability or cause power outages for you or your neighbors.

Windbreaks — Evergreens should be planted on the west or north side of the house, approximately 50 feet or more from the house. A mature windbreak can lower heating bills 10 to 20 percent.
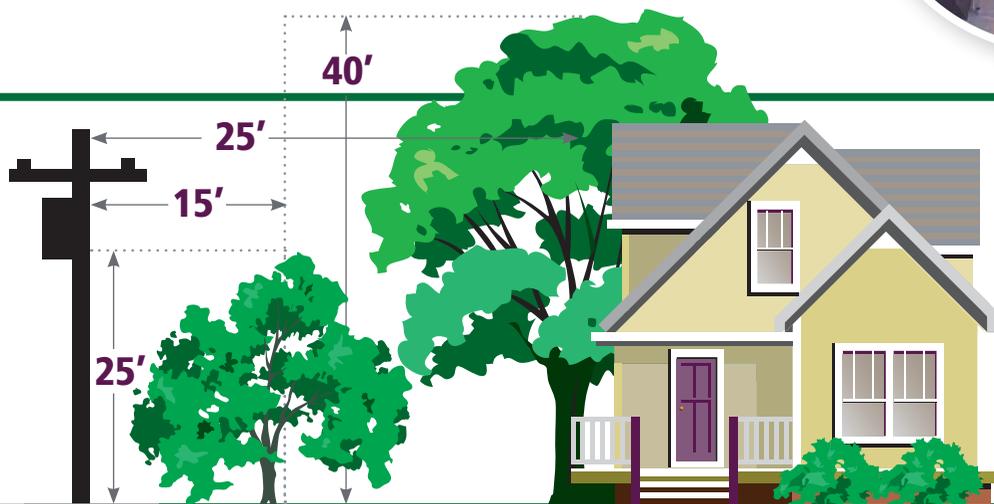
Shade Trees — Deciduous (leaf dropping) trees should be planted on the south or west side of the house to cool in the summer and allow sunlight to enter the house in the winter. The shade provided by these trees can cut cooling costs 15 to 35 percent.

Solar-friendly Trees — Deciduous trees planted at specific locations within your landscape can maximize your efforts for an energy efficient home. These trees provide shade during the summer and a large percentage of sunlight penetration during the winter. In contrast to other tree varieties, solar-friendly trees have few branches, leaf out late in the spring and drop their leaves early in the fall.
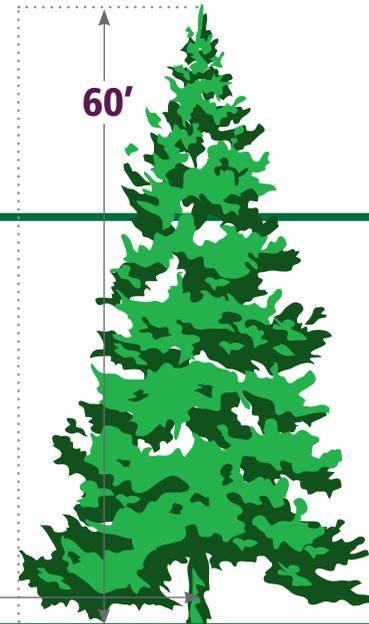
Before you dig, and to avoid the danger of accidentally cutting into underground power lines or other utility cables, call DigLine (811) at least two working days before you dig. Calling 811 automatically routes your call to a local representative.

After providing information about a digging project, operators alert the appropriate utilities and send a crew to the job site to mark the locations of underground facilities free of charge. Locating these underground power lines and cables helps prevent personal injury and costly damage to utility lines.

Shade Tree Project — Certain residential customers may be eligible to participate in our Shade Tree Project, where you can receive up to two trees per address for **FREE**! For more information, visit **idahopower.com/shadetree**.

40'

25'

15'

25'

60'

35'

STREET SIDEWALK CLASS I CLASS II CLASS III

PLANTING INFORMATION

- **Plan before you plant.**
- **Fertilize as recommended by your nursery.**
- **Water thoroughly.**

While retaining normal plant shape, thin the interior branches and foliage, and remove crossing or parallel branches. Do not trim the main central branch.

1. Dig a shallow, broad planting hole.
2. Identify the trunk flare.
3. Remove tree container if present.
4. Place the tree at the proper height.
5. Straighten the tree in the hole.
6. Fill the hole gently but firmly.
7. Stake the tree, if necessary.
8. Mulch the base of the tree.
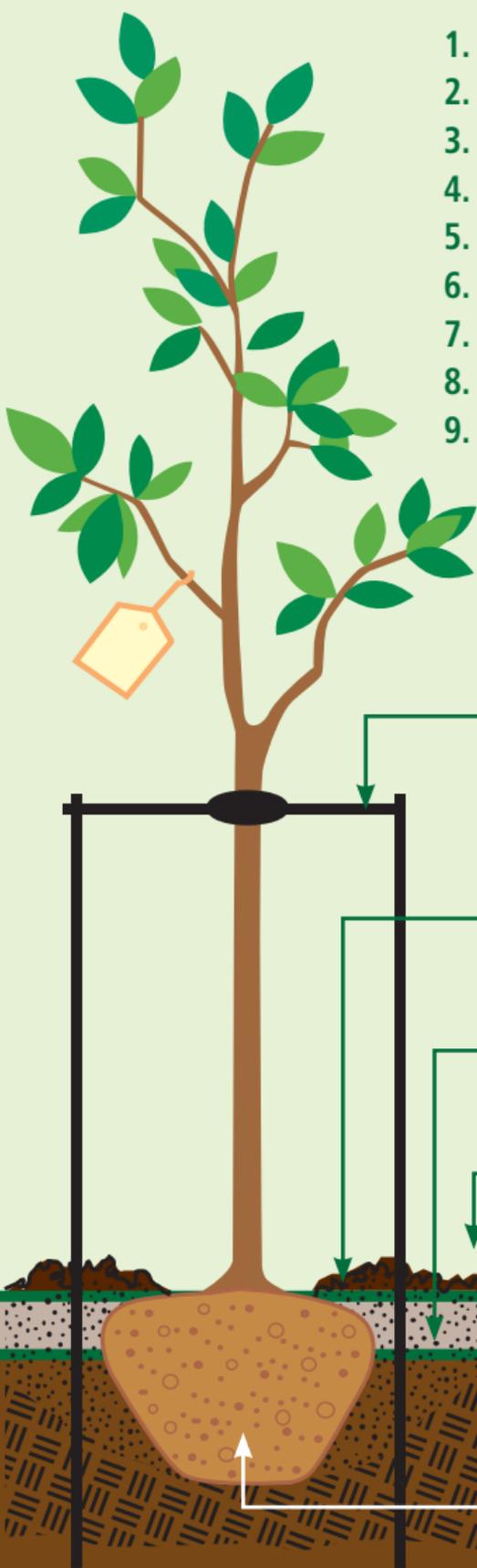9. Provide follow-up care.

Use two opposing, flexible ties when staking is necessary. Ties should be placed on the lower half of the tree and allow trunk movement. Remove staking after one year.

Keep mulch 1 to 2 inches back from trunk and trunk flare.

Gently pack backfill, using water to settle soil around the root ball.

Place 2 to 4-inch layer of mulch.

Remove containers, wrappings, wire and ties. Set ball on firmly packed soil to prevent settling.

Neglecting to plan for tree growth can lead to potential safety hazards and power outages. To prevent these situations and ensure electric reliability, Idaho Power must periodically clear trees near power lines.

This brochure will help you select the right tree for the right location. Trees are classified into three categories according to their height. This brochure recommends several Class I varieties which can be planted near power lines.

Check with your local nursery or landscaper for more varieties in all three classes that are suitable for your landscaping needs and will grow well in your area.