

HERBICIDE USE NOTIFICATION

Vermont utilities maintain electric line rights-of-way with several methods, including the selective use of herbicides on trees and brush. They also encourage low-growing shrubs and trees which will crowd tall-growing species and, thus, minimize the use of herbicides. The application of herbicides may start as early as April 1. **Requests to utilities for notice by mail, however, must be made by February 15.**

The Public Service Board requires Vermont utilities to carry out vegetation management techniques which allow maintenance of electrical systems in a cost-efficient manner.

The types of herbicide treatment used to maintain vegetation on utility rights-of-way include the following applications: stump, injection, basal, soil, and foliar. These are the commonly used methods; your local utility may use other methods. Landowners have the right to request that a utility apply herbicide treatment on cut stumps only or that a utility refrain from applying herbicide. In the latter case, the landowner has to pay the utility an administrative fee. Only electric utility rights-of-way that have tall-growing tree species with the potential of threatening the electric utility system are treated.

Utilities advertise by radio and newspaper prior to herbicide applications on all lines. Utilities typically treat rights of way once every four-to-six years, depending on the utility's specific vegetation management cycle. Please check with your utility regarding the vegetation management cycle of a particular line.

Some utilities identify their poles with metal letters and numbers, e.g., V.E.C. (Vermont Electric Co-operative), or V.E.L.C.O. (Vermont Electric Power Company). These markings are not found on every utility pole. However, by checking of several poles on a line, you should be able to find a marked pole and determine which utility owns it.

Persons owning or occupying land within 1,000 feet of a utility right-of-way may request in writing that the utility notify them individually by mail anytime but at least 30 days prior to treatment of the line with herbicides. The landowner or resident is responsible for contacting the utility, in writing, to request placement on the mailing list. The utility should be provided with sufficient information as to the exact location of the residence and land. It is the duty of each landowner or resident to make the utility aware of the location of any potentially affected water supply, and any environmentally sensitive areas where herbicide application ought to be avoided.

CONTACT YOUR ELECTRIC UTILITY WITH QUESTIONS OR SUBMIT THE COUPON PROVIDED

If you have further questions or concerns contact:

Agency of Agriculture
James Leland
116 State St., Montpelier, VT 05602
1-802-828-2431

Consumer Affairs & Public Information
Dept. of Public Service
112 State St., Montpelier, VT 05620
1-800-622-4496 or 1-802-828- 2332

| LANDOWNER REQUEST TO BE ADDED TO HERBICIDE TREATMENT NOTIFICATION MAILING LIST | |
|---|--|
| Name | Town/City of Affected Property |
| Street Address | Telephone Number (Home) |
| Town | (Work) |
| State Zip Code | O.K. to use Work Number: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Electric Account Number | Best Time to Call |
| Property of Concern: <input type="checkbox"/> Year Round Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Property | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Supply <input type="checkbox"/> Land <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |
| Line and Pole Identification: Utility Initials | Numbers |
| We need all of this information in order to determine if you qualify for personal notification. If information is unobtainable, please state why. Use an extra sheet of paper if you need more space. | |
| RETURN TO YOUR LOCAL UTILITY | |
| VELCO15 | |