October CommKit

Other Content – Right Tree Right Place

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**Planting the Right Tree in the Right Place**

Typically, you would think about planting trees in the springtime when everything is starting to bloom, but late fall through early winter is actually the best time to plant trees in Tennessee. According to the [Nashville Tree Conservation Corps](https://www.nashvilletreeconservationcorps.org/treenews/how-to-plant-a-tree-part-3-getting-the-timing-right), the changing of leaf colors is a good signal that is safe to start planting trees. You can even continue planting trees through the winter as long as the ground isn’t frozen. The earlier you plant, the better because the tree has more time to spread its roots.

On top of timing, it is also critical that you consider where you are planting this new tree and the size it will be when it is fully mature.

“It is easy to get excited about the new beauty you are adding to your landscape, not to mention the important environmental benefits and added property value,” [INSERT NAME OF CO-OP, TITLE, EMPLOYEE NAME] said. “But, when the tree becomes too tall that it interferes with power lines, that’s when it becomes a problem.”

If your tree is not planted in the right place, high winds could bring tree branches into contact with power lines, resulting in safety hazards for your family, your neighbors and your community’s lineworkers. Not to mention that your power will likely go out as well. To avoid this problem, do some research or talk to a professional or your co-op before purchasing.

“Plant the right tree in the right place,” [NAME] said. “If you have any questions on the tree you are considering adding to your yard, give us a call. We’ll be happy to help.”

Some great examples of smaller trees include flowering dogwoods and redbuds. Both are native to Tennessee and power line friendly choices.

And before you get to planting, always remember to call 811 before your dig. At no cost to you, your underground utility lines will be located and marked prior to the start of your project. One phone call prevents accidental contact.