



When selecting tree and shrub species to plant in the right-of-way, it is important to consider the growth rate of the species and its height at maturity to ensure there is never a conflict with the transmission line infrastructure.

The VELCO Vegetation Management team can help you decide whether or not a plant is compatible. We have created this list of Compatible and Incompatible woody plants to help narrow down your choices. It is worth mentioning that almost all wildflowers and grasses are compatible with transmission lines.

If you have further questions, please reach out to [ForestryTeam@velco.com](mailto:ForestryTeam@velco.com)

## Examples of Right-of-Way **Compatible** Vegetation

This list is not exhaustive but includes common trees and shrubs commonly planted in and native to Vermont. Species on list generally stay below 12 feet tall at maturity.

Common Name(s)	Plant genus
Elderberry	Sambucus
Dogwood	Cornus, Swida
Brambles (raspberry, blackberry)	Rubus
Mountain laurel	Kalmia
Creeping juniper	Juniperus horizontalis
American hazelnut	Corylus
Roses	Rosa
Shrub willows	Salix
Hawthorn	Crataegus
Crabapples	Malus
Common apples	Malus
White cedar	Thuja occidentalis (most but not all cultivars)
Eastern red cedar	Juniperus virginiana
Speckled alder, common alder	Alnus
Cranberries, blueberries	Vaccinium
Winterberry, inkberry	Ilex
Lilac	Syringa
Hydrangea	Hydrangea
Azalea, Rhododendron	Rhododendron
Viburnum	Viburnum
Common pears	Pyrus
Ninebark	Physocarpus

## Examples of Right-of-Way **Incompatible** Species

This list is not exhaustive, but includes common trees found in Vermont. **Do not** plant these species within the right-of-way boundary. Always check mature plant height to determine compatibility. Note that plants may have other common names in addition to those listed.

Common Name(s)*	Plant Genus	Mature Height
Ash (White, Green, Black)	Fraxinus	40-80'
Aspen (Quaking, Big Tooth)	Populus	50-80'
Basswood, Lindens	Tilia	60-80'
Beech, American	Fagus	70-80'
Birch, Black, Yellow, White, Grey	Betula	50-70'
Boxelder	Acer	50-70'
Butternut, Black Walnut	Juglans	40-60'
Catalpa	Catalpa	90-120'
Cherry, Black, Pin, Fire	Prunus	30-60'
Cottonwood	Populus	80-100'
Elm (American, Slippery, Siberian)	Ulmus	60-90'
Larch	Larix	40-80'
Locust	Robinia, Gleditsia	40-100'
Fir (Balsam and others)	Abies	40-60'
Hemlock	Tsuga	60-80'
Hickory (Shagbark, Bitternut, and others)	Carya	70-80'
Hop Hornbeam	Ostrya	30-50'
Maple (Red, Sugar, Norway, Silver)	Acer	60-90'
Oak	Quercus	60-80'
Pine (White, Red, Scotch and others)	Pinus	70-100'
Sycamore, Plane Tree	Platanus	80-100'
Spruce (Red, White, Black, Norway)	Picea	60-80'
Yellow Poplar, Tulip tree	Liriodendron	70-90'
Tree willows (Weeping, Crack, Black)	Salix	30-40'

The below table is a list of short-statured landscape plants NOT recommended due to their known invasive status. Consult [vtinvasives.org](http://vtinvasives.org) for more information.

Common Name(s)	Plant genus or species
Barberry	Berberis
Buckthorn (glossy, common)	Frangula, Rhamnus
Autumn olive	Eleagnus umbellata
Multiflora rose	Rosa multiflora
Knotweed (Giant, Japanese)	Fallopia
Amur maple	Acer ginnala
Privet	Ligustrum
Bittersweet	Celastrus
Burning bush or euonymus	Euonymus
Honeysuckles	Lonicera (excluding some native spp.)
Russian Olive	Eleagnus angustifolia