

Tree Planting Near High Pressure Pipelines

This Good Practice Guide (041) is aimed at anyone who may want to plant trees and shrubs in the vicinity of high pressure (HP) pipelines. Plant and tree roots have the potential to cause damage to the coatings used to protect HP pipelines, that in turn could lead to damage of the pipeline itself.

Before planting any new trees or shrubs in the pipeline wayleave / easement, written permission should be obtained from the pipeline operator. Any approval granted by the pipeline operator shall be subject to retaining the rights to remove, at any point in the future, all trees, which in the opinion of a pipeline engineer, might become a risk to the pipeline and its integrity.

The consent to plant trees will state what area may be planted and also the type of tree.

The following should act as general guidance for tree planting, based on the centre line of the pipeline:

 Shallow rooting hedges and ground plants (e.g. blackthorn, broom, elder, hazel, etc) may be planted, if necessary (for screening purposes or to mark boundaries) directly across the pipeline

 Fruit trees such as dwarf apple stocks may be planted up to 3 mtrs of the pipeline

 Christmas trees may be planted up to 3 mtrs of the pipeline on the strict understanding that these are clear-felled at intervals not exceeding 7 years

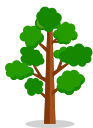
 The following trees (and those of a similar size, whether deciduous or evergreen) are not permitted be planted withing 6 mtrs of the pipeline; e.g. ash, beech, birch, most conifers, elm, maple, lime, horse chestnut, oak, apple and pear trees. Within 6 – 10 mtrs they may be planted as individual specimens or as a single row. Dense mass planting may be carried out at distances of greater the 10 mtrs

 Poplar and willow trees should not be planted within 10 mtrs of the pipeline

If you are in any doubt about anything listed in this guidance or prior to the felling or removal of shrubs or trees in the vicinity of high pressure pipeline please contact the pipeline operator who will be able to provide further help.

For more information on working safely near HP pipelines take a look at the UKOPA working safely presentation which can be found at www.ukopa.co.uk/working-safely-near-high-pressure-pipelines.

Tree Planting Guidelines



Large Growing Species of:

Poplars and Willows

(Distance from Pipeline) **10mtrs**



Large Conifers and Deciduous Forest Trees:

Scots Pine, Black Pine, Cedar, Larch, Ash, Beech, Sycamore, Horse Chestnut, Sweet Chestnut, London Plane, Hornbeam, Oak Alder, Elm, Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Lime

(Distance from Pipeline) **6mtrs**



Amenity Trees:

Field Maple
Wild Cherry
Crab Apple
Cobnut
Birch, Elder

Ornamental Trees:

Mountain Ash
Whitebeam
Cockspur Thorn
False Acacia
Lawsons Cypress

(Distance from Pipeline) **3mtrs**



Shrub Planting:

Holly, Dogwood, Spindle, Laurel, Guelder Rose, Privet, Roses, Rhododendron, Christmas Trees

Fruit Bushes:

Gooseberries
Raspberries
Currants
Loganberries

(Distance from Pipeline) **1.5mtrs**

Hedgeplants:

Hedgeplants only where necessary over the pipeline, road and field crossings, etc.



Ground Cover:

Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Heathers, Snowberry, Berberis, Cotoneaster