

Board of Selectmen Town of Boscawen 116 North Main Street

Boscawen, NH 03303

### RECEIVED

AUG 7 2015

TOWN OF BOSCAWEN

August 3, 2015

Dear Board of Selectmen,

I am writing to inform you that Unitil and our qualified contractor will be conducting our integrated vegetation management program on our Sub-Transmission lines in parts of your town. Unitil intends to selectively apply herbicide to undesirable vegetation growing within the electric line rights-of-way.

This treatment will be performed by experienced State of NH Certified Applicators, authorized by Special Permit #178, issued by the NH Division of Pesticide Control. In compliance with the State of NH, Code of Administrative Rules regarding public notification of herbicide treatments to rights-of-way, we have enclosed the following for your information and review:

- "Herbicide Use Notification" this notification includes a notification request coupon for individuals who own property over which the right-of-way passes, or whose property abuts the rightof way and who wish to be notified in writing thirty (30) days prior to any treatment. Coupons must be received no later than <u>August 28, 2015</u>. Requests after this date will not be granted until the next treatment cycle
- 2. Copy of the Treatment Maps these maps depict the location of the electric line rights-of-way intended for treatment
- 3. Copy of the Door Hanger Notification this notification will be left with each right-of-way abutter, along with a copy of the "Herbicide Use Notification"
- 4. Additional Mail-in Notification-Request Coupons equivalent to the number of landowners abutting or owning land on the right-of-way in the city/town for use by such landowners to request specific written notice

The enclosed "Herbicide Use Notice" will be published in a newspaper of statewide circulation and those of local circulation to help inform the public. Please also post this notice as you deem appropriate.

Unitil will be working very closely with all parties involved and any questions, concerns or comments about the integrated vegetation management program's herbicide treatment may be directed to me at 603-379-3833 between 8:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation with this project.

Sincerely,

Sara M. Sankowich System Arborist Unitil Corporation (o) 603-379-3833

### HERBICIDE USE NOTIFICATION

Unitil plans to apply herbicides along certain rights-of-way in New Hampshire in 2015. In accordance with administrative rules of the State of New Hampshire Pesticide Control Board, no application of herbicides shall be made to rights-of-way, during the months of June through October 15, without first providing notification to Town officials, the public, and residences near the rights-of-way. This announcement serves to provide notification to the public.

The following herbicides will be selectively used to control certain tall-growing vegetation on the rights-of-way while leaving undisturbed low growing vegetation: **Accord Concentrate** (Glyphosate), **Garlon 4 Ultra** (Triclopyr), **Arsenal Powerline** (Imazapyr), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), and **Krenite S** (Fosamine Ammonium). Unitil will conduct maintenance on the following rights-of-way in the associated Towns, beginning September 28, 2015:

Right-of-Way

Town

37/34

Boscawen, Concord

Right-of-Way

3359/3348/3350

Town

Hampton, Hampton Falls, Seabrook

Individual landowners whose property abuts the right-of-way, or over whose property the right-of-way passes, may request and receive individual notification thirty days prior to any treatment.

A Notification Request Coupon is provided below. To receive individual notification, fill out the Notification Request Coupon and return to the specified address. Coupons must be received by Unitil no later than August 28, 2015. Requests received after this date will not be granted until the next treatment cycle.

In addition to the Personal Notification by mail, as an individual landowner whose property abuts the right-of-way, or over whose property the right-of-way passes, you have the right to request and receive the approximate date, plus or minus 5 days, that pesticides will be applied to the right-of-way in your area. Requests should be made to the contact listed below.

Rights-of-way are generally located away from streets and may be identified by locating a metal tag on a pole or structure with a number on it and usually appear with the right-of-way number. (see list above)

In accordance with State Regulations, it is the duty of each landowner or resident to make Unitil aware of the location of potentially affected private water supplies, and of any other environmentally sensitive areas where herbicide application should be further restricted.

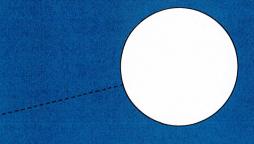
Further information may be requested by contacting, during business hours (Mon.-Fri. 8AM-5PM): Sara Sankowich • Unitil, System Arborist• Telephone (603) 379-3833

#### **NOTIFICATION REQUEST COUPON**

Name	Property Location: Town	Street	
Street Address	Tel. # (home)	Tel. # (work)	
Town	State	Zip Code	
Line and Pole Numbers:			
Other Landowner Location Information:			
Sensitive Areas:			
Landowner or Abutter requests notification of approximate date of application (Yes or No):			

Return to: Unitil Forestry, Sara Sankowich, 6 Liberty Lane West, Hampton, NH, 03842

### EXAMPLE



### Right Tree, Right Place

Before you plant that tree or shrub, consider its location. A small sapling can grow to be 40 feet tall and 40 feet wide or more. Bear in mind, too, that trees not only have branches up and out, but also roots reaching down and out. Roots can interfere with underground power lines, gas lines and other utility systems.

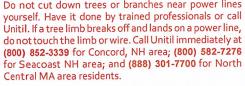
#### Follow these tips to plant safely:

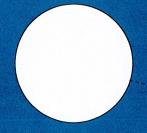


Think about what is above and below. Call DigSafe® before any disturbance is scheduled to begin.

Plant your tree in the right space for its "adult size."

Do not cut down trees or branches near power lines





### **Sub-Transmission Clearing and Pruning**

Transmission vegetation management refers to maintenance of Unitil's right-of-way around our transmission zones. The transmission system is the "backbone" of our electric system, feeding the distribution lines that run along your streets and neighborhoods. Tree and limb contact must be completely eliminated on these lines to ensure continuous service.

Every year, Unitil hires specialized tree crews and assigns them the task of clearing our right-of-ways and cutting back limbs and branches that are too close to power lines. The reason for the tree pruning is simple: trees near power lines are the single greatest cause of electrical outages.

This clearing and pruning is done according to a specific plan, under the direction of our arborists, who know the species of trees – how fast they grow and how best to prune them. These tree experts also identify potentially hazardous trees that are a danger to the electrical system, and incompatible tree species growing directly under our lines.

To ensure a reliable power supply, tree crews clear the right-of-way area, prune, and remove selected trees adjacent to your property.

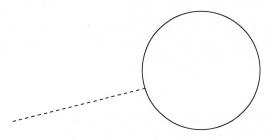








## EXAMPLE



#### Dear Property Owner,

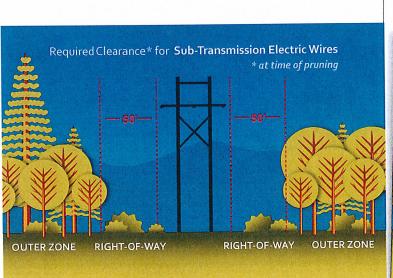
This notice is intended for the owner of the residence where we plan to begin right-of-way clearing, tree pruning and vegetation maintenance in your area.

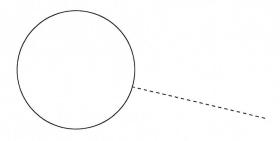
Should you not own the property at this location, please respond to this notice indicating you are not the owner, and forward to the property owner if possible. Otherwise, please review the information provided. It will help you understand our approach to keeping trees clear of overhead utility wires. If you have any further questions, we're happy to assist you.

Thank you,
Forestry Department
Unitil

## We strive to maintain a 100 foot wide right-of-way for our transmission lines.

This includes removing all tall-growing or incompatible tree species 50 feet back from the electrical wire, or to the maximum right-of-way extent, and often removing all vegetation directly under the wire for inspection and access purposes. In the area adjacent to the right-of-way (outer zone), trees are pruned and those that are deemed hazards are removed.





#### Sorry we missed you...

- We are looking to perform utility maintenance right-of-way clearing and pruning of our overhead electrical wires
   We are looking to apply herbicide along the
- right-of-way (see attached insert for more information)

  We are looking to remove trees
- .
- Other concern

These efforts are essential to continued safe and reliable electric service. We will take all necessary steps to ensure the care of your property.

Please call \_\_\_\_\_

or email forestry@unitil.com to confirm or discuss the desired work. Please include your name, the address where work is to be done and a number to contact you.

\*If we receive no response, we will consider it consent to clear the right-of-way and prune.



Inside Right Winsert pocket

Example

## Notice



# To **Homeowners** along **Electric Rights-of-Way**

Herbicide application allows us to keep power lines clear of tall growing undesirable plants, while maintaining low growing desirable vegetation. This practice has been known to increase biodiversity on Right-of-Ways when compared to mowing alone. It allows for low growing native vegetation to flourish, providing for wildlife habitat and food. It also allows us to control non-native invasive species while protecting native low growing vegetation.

These herbicides are some of the same products you may use to control vegetation around your home. Ensuring that vegetation does not encroach on the power lines, while having minimal impact on our environment, is a priority at Unitil. That's why we continually research the best technologies and techniques. Trained and professional maintenance crews selectively apply product in a controlled low-dose to manage plant growth in a safe and environmentally-friendly manner. All products used by Unitil are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and appropriate state agencies.

Insert Front

Example

# Notice



This notice was delivered on			
If you have any questions or concerns about this application,			
please contact			
from Unitil's contractor company			
within 14 days of the date above.			
Contact number:			
Treatments are scheduled to begin on or about:			
Unitil Right-of-Way Number:			
Pole Number(s):			
Town:			

Rights-of-Way are generally located away from streets and may be identified by locating a metal tag on a pole or structure with a number on it, and usually appear with the right-of-way number listed above.

For more information please visit our website at **www.unitil.com** 

Insert Back

