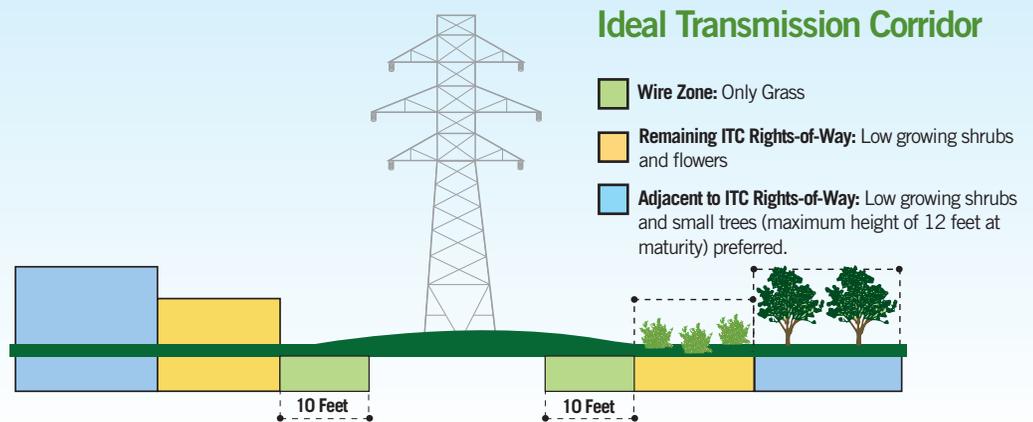


ITC maintains an active vegetation management program incorporating a three-year inspection cycle throughout its corridors. But vegetation growth is dynamic. Trees that are pruned can sprout aggressively; additionally, during hot summer months transmission lines sag due to the energy load they are carrying. In order to meet the federal government's zero-outage mandate, ITC determined it must implement a revised vegetation management approach in accordance with the following:

**Within the Wire Zone:** Trees growing within the wire zone (the area under and 10 feet outside the wires) shall be targeted for removal with priority emphasis given to incompatible, tall-growing species. Where we lack removal rights in the wire zone or permission is not obtained, trees shall be pruned to the maximum allowable height directing growth laterally away from wires.

**Outside the Wire Zone, but within remaining ITC Rights-of-Way:** Trees growing outside the wire zone, but within the remaining ITC Rights-of-Way will be targeted for removal, where necessary, to maintain safety and reliability, with priority emphasis given to incompatible, tall-growing species. Where we lack tree removal rights within the Rights-of-Way, or where permission is not obtained, trees shall be pruned to the maximum allowable height.

**Adjacent to ITC Rights-of-Way:** Trees growing outside and adjacent to ITC Rights-of-Way and posing a safety or reliability threat, will be pruned to the edge of our Rights-of-Way. Permission will be sought from the affected property owner to remove or prune the tree outside of the ITC Rights-of-Way.

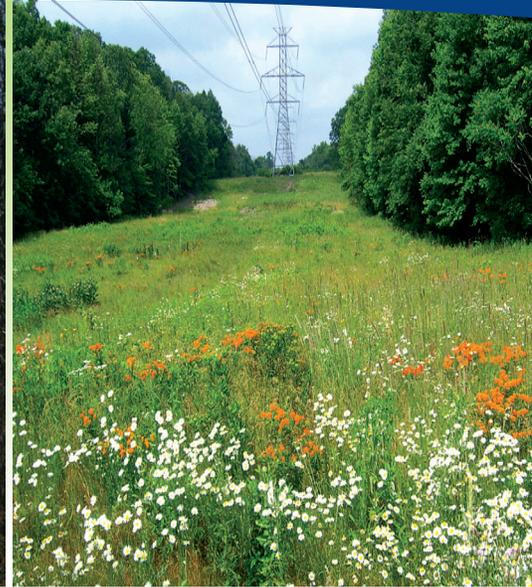


*ITC will actively negotiate with affected property owners to seek the necessary tree removal or pruning rights in those cases where rights are insufficient to maintain the safety and reliability of the transmission line. In the event we cannot secure the necessary rights from property owners, we may pursue other appropriate legal remedies.*



## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT: STONY CREEK CORRIDOR BEFORE & AFTER

Clearing the Transmission corridors for safety and reliability, while restoring plant diversity and natural wildlife habitats.



## THE CHALLENGE:

Overgrown vegetation in and near the wire zone poses a threat to the reliability and safety of the system and communities. Trees can grow into lines or eventually fall into the lines which can cause massive outages.

THE RESPONSE:  
Crews remove vegetation from the  
transmission wire zone



# More Vegetation Management Images



IDEAL TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR



COMMUNITY TRAILS

