



247 Station Drive, SE-370  
Westwood, MA 02090

**William Hayes**  
Supervisor  
Electric Transmission  
Vegetation Management

Certified mail-return receipt requested

March 19, 2019

Dear Municipal Official:

This letter is to inform you that Eversource Energy, Western MA intends to selectively apply herbicides in 2019 along the power line rights-of-way that pass through your municipality. This treatment is conducted as a component of an integrated vegetation management program that uses the appropriate mechanical and/or herbicides treatments to control vegetation in order to encourage the growth of healthy early successional ecological communities that benefit wildlife while allowing for the safe delivery of electricity to our customers.

Eversource Energy, Western MA's 2019-2023 *Five-year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for Western, MA* is posted at the following websites:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/vegetation-management-and-yearly-operation-plans.html>

<https://www.eversource.com/content/ema-c/about/about-us/doing-business-with-us/municipal-officials/transmission-vegetation-management>

If you would like a hard copy please contact us with this request.

Eversource Energy, Western MA's 2019 *Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) for Western, MA* is also posted at the above websites. If you would like a hard copy please contact us with this request.

Please note that the YOP also includes the rights-of-way (ROW) from the 2018 treatment program. This is just in case Eversource Energy, Western MA needs to request a "touch-up" retreatment of scattered locations from its contractor(s). For some municipalities, these "touch-up" ROW's are the only ones that are located within your boundaries; please note the difference on pages 3-4 in the YOP.

Please review the YOP map(s) that locate the ROW corridors and the plotted location of known sensitive areas including public and private drinking water supplies. **If there are any additional sensitive areas located on or near the ROW's please advise us as soon as possible so a permanent record can be established and appropriate field protective actions implemented. We particularly rely on this process to collect corrections to the public wells and to record the location of private wells.** The enclosed maps will be updated with any new information that is received by Eversource Energy, Western MA and posted at the above website.

The herbicides are listed in Section VII of the YOP and will be selectively applied to target vegetation by experienced, Massachusetts' licensed/certified applicators that walk along the ROWs using backpack equipment.

The foliage treatments will take place between June 15<sup>th</sup> and October 18<sup>th</sup> along with cut surface treatments (CST). Fall CST, basal treatments or sensitive foliar treatments may be necessary and are scheduled between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> in areas along the ROWs that might not have received a foliage treatment or to trees over 12 feet tall. The exact time is dependent upon weather conditions and field crew progress.

In compliance with 333 CMR 11.06-11.07, No herbicide applications will occur before the conclusion of the 45 day YOP review period, the 21 day treatment notice and the 48 hour newspaper notice. At the end of these review periods, which can run concurrently, no application shall commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the treatment periods listed above.

All of the herbicides selected for this program are registered by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, the Massachusetts Pesticide Board, and are recommended for use in and around sensitive areas jointly by the Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (please refer to the YOP for specifics).

The work will be performed by one of the following companies:

Vegetation Control Service, Inc.  
2342 Main Street  
Athol, MA 01331  
(978) 249 5348

Lewis Tree Service, Inc  
300 Lucius Gordon Drive  
West Henrietta, NY 14586  
(585) 436-3208

Lucas Tree  
636 Riverside St.  
Portland, ME 04104  
(888) 845-7870

Rainbow Treecare  
11571 K-Tel Dr.  
Minnetonka, MN 55343  
(952) 922-3810

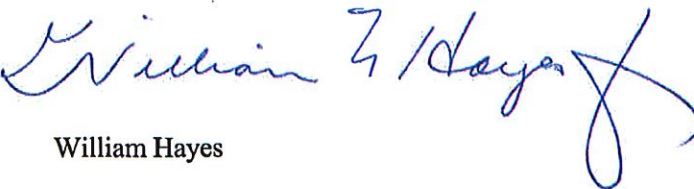
This informational 21-day notification is in compliance with Chapter 132B, section 6B of the Massachusetts General Laws and 333 CMR 11.05-11.07 Rights of Way Management and Chapter 85, Section 10 of the Acts of 2000.

For inquiries concerning the safety of the herbicides please contact:

Director of Rights of Way Program  
Department of Food and Agriculture  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02114-2151

If there are any questions or comments relative to technical questions about the treatment program, you would like a hard copy of the VMP or YOP, or have any questions about Eversource Energy, Western MA and its electrical rights-of-way system please contact William Hayes (781) 441-3932 for transmission lines and Barry Croke (413) 585-1802 for distribution lines.

Sincerely,



William Hayes

Enc: Environmental Monitor Notice  
2019 Yearly Operational Plan Maps  
45 Day YOP Public Notice and Review and Comment Period Document

cc: Board of Health  
Board of Selectmen  
Conservation Commission  
Municipal Water Supplier  
Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau