

Arboretum Features



OPPD has certified arborists who can provide expertise for news stories, including:

- Selecting the best trees and shrubs, given landscape and climate
- Planting trees safely by avoiding interference with power lines
- Planting strategically to conserve energy
- Proper care and maintenance of trees, plants and shrubs, including those damaged by storms

OPPD's arboretum, 108th and Blondo, is open daily from dawn to dusk. It offers a variety of resources, emphasizing the tree/power line environment. Here, customers, students, employees and the media have a chance to see and learn about landscape and specimen plantings of the woody plants recommended for OPPD's service area.

The arboretum is designed with the following areas of interest:

- **Electrical Safety Education Area:** Provides a demonstration of trimming methods used by OPPD's Forestry Department when pruning trees away from power lines. It also includes examples of tree and shrub species that can be planted adjacent to power lines.
- **Substation Overlook:** Explains the parts of the substation and how each part functions.
- **Transmission Line Demonstration:** Allows visitors to walk through a transmission right-of-way to see the vegetation management practices OPPD uses to eliminate unwanted vegetation and promote the growth of plants desirable for attracting wildlife.
- **Shelterbelt, Wildlife and Erosion Control Plantings:** Contains tree and shrub plantings designed to attract wildlife and also to provide examples of soil and wind conservation measures through erosion-control windbreaks.
- **Formal Planting Area:** Emphasizes the right tree in the right place to avoid future tree/powerline hazards. Here, visitors can also see the types of trees that can be planted adjacent to power lines, as well as groupings of native Nebraska trees, a conifer collection and lowland/wetland plantings.
- **Outdoor Classroom:** Provides an open-air learning environment surrounded by native tree species and connected to a hard surface trail system.



For more information or to arrange an interview, contact:

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