



# Protecting Your Trees

The process Florida Power & Light Company uses in most Storm Secure Underground Program projects installs power lines so they won't harm your trees or their root systems.



**Florida Power & Light Company understands how important trees are to your home – so we take steps to protect them when we install underground power lines.**

Before construction begins, FPL or our approved contractor notes the location of your trees to avoid damaging them.

Soil and water table conditions vary, but most Florida trees have root systems that remain within the top three feet of soil below the surface. That's the layer where roots find most of the moisture, aeration and nutrients they need to nourish and stabilize trees. The directional boring (or horizontal drilling) method we use in most projects installs power lines three to four feet below ground — or deeper, if necessary — to avoid most tree roots.

“Directional boring minimizes impacts on trees by tunneling under most roots rather than cutting them,” says Dr. Ed Gilman, University of Florida professor emeritus of Urban Trees and Landscape Plants in the Department of Environmental Horticulture.

Throughout the undergrounding process, FPL works to minimize any disruption to your property. When we're finished, we pledge to restore your property to its original condition.

Once your power lines are underground, you'll be able to enjoy your trees without worrying about whether they will interfere with overhead power lines and cause outages for you and your neighbors.

