

Dominion Virginia Power Vegetation Management



Dominion[®]



Herbicide Use on Right-of-Way Corridors

Dominion uses a **selective approach** to vegetation management to enhance its environmental stewardship while maintaining and managing its right-of-way corridors.

Herbicides are effective tools utilized to control ground floor vegetation in right-of-way corridors.

A portion of vegetation maintenance includes the use of herbicides by trained applicators. Herbicides are applied in the spring and summer months to control ground-floor vegetation and throughout the year to manage tree stumps that could re-sprout and become a threat to the power lines.

Herbicides are commonly used by electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities.

Herbicides are also used by various departments of transportation, railroad companies, municipalities, gas pipeline companies, departments of forestry, lawn care companies, golf courses, land use managers, and homeowners.

Herbicides are Safe and Beneficial

Herbicide use encourages diverse plant life, such as wildflowers, endangered plant communities and native pollinators, which thrive in the right-of-way corridors. This in turn benefits wildlife, including deer, turkey, butterflies, song birds, and other animals.

The use of herbicides for selective management is supported by many wildlife and vegetation organizations, such as the National Wild Turkey Federation, International Society of Arboriculture, Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Management Institute, Butterfly Society, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and many others.

The herbicides used by Dominion have been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and are registered with both State and Federal Agencies. When used properly, these herbicides are no more harmful to humans or animals than ordinary household products.



Herbicide Use Reduces Restoration Time



This is how a typical right-of-way corridor looks three years after mowing. Can you imagine the linemen trying to safely untangle fallen power lines to restore power?



Power lines on a right-of-way corridor treated with herbicides are easily accessible. During a power outage, this improved accessibility helps us restore power quickly and safely to our customers.

Herbicide Application Preserves Plant Life



Right-of-way corridors treated with herbicide quickly convert to a dense cover of native grasses and wildflowers. It contains a stable, diverse plant community that can sustain nesting and habitat for wildlife year after year.



A Selective Vegetation Management Program Can Minimize Disruption for Property Owners

This photograph was taken just a few weeks after a routine herbicide treatment.

Only the sweetgum plant in the foreground and a few stems nearby had to be treated.

The site was virtually undisturbed during the process. An applicator simply walked through the area with a backpack sprayer and applied a small amount of herbicide.

This right-of-way corridor floor will not need work again for several years.



Questions?

You can learn more about Dominion's vegetation management program and use of herbicides at our website: www.dom.com, keyword "trees."

