

VELCO Vegetation Management 2023 – Catamount Community Forest

VELCO is scheduled to perform regular vegetation maintenance on the right-of-way easement in the Catamount Community Forest. Maintenance will occur in summer and fall/winter of 2023 and will include:

- Removal of several danger trees
- Targeted herbicide application followed by mowing with excavator mower

VELCO contractors will perform Ultra-Low-Volume targeted herbicide applications on ‘floor’ of the right-of-way. These targeted applications are made as part of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) Program to safely and reliably transmit electricity throughout New England. This application targets only tree species that could grow tall enough to interrupt the reliability of the system. We also spray invasive plant species that either 1) impede access for our crews or 2) the landowner agrees to allow us to treat.

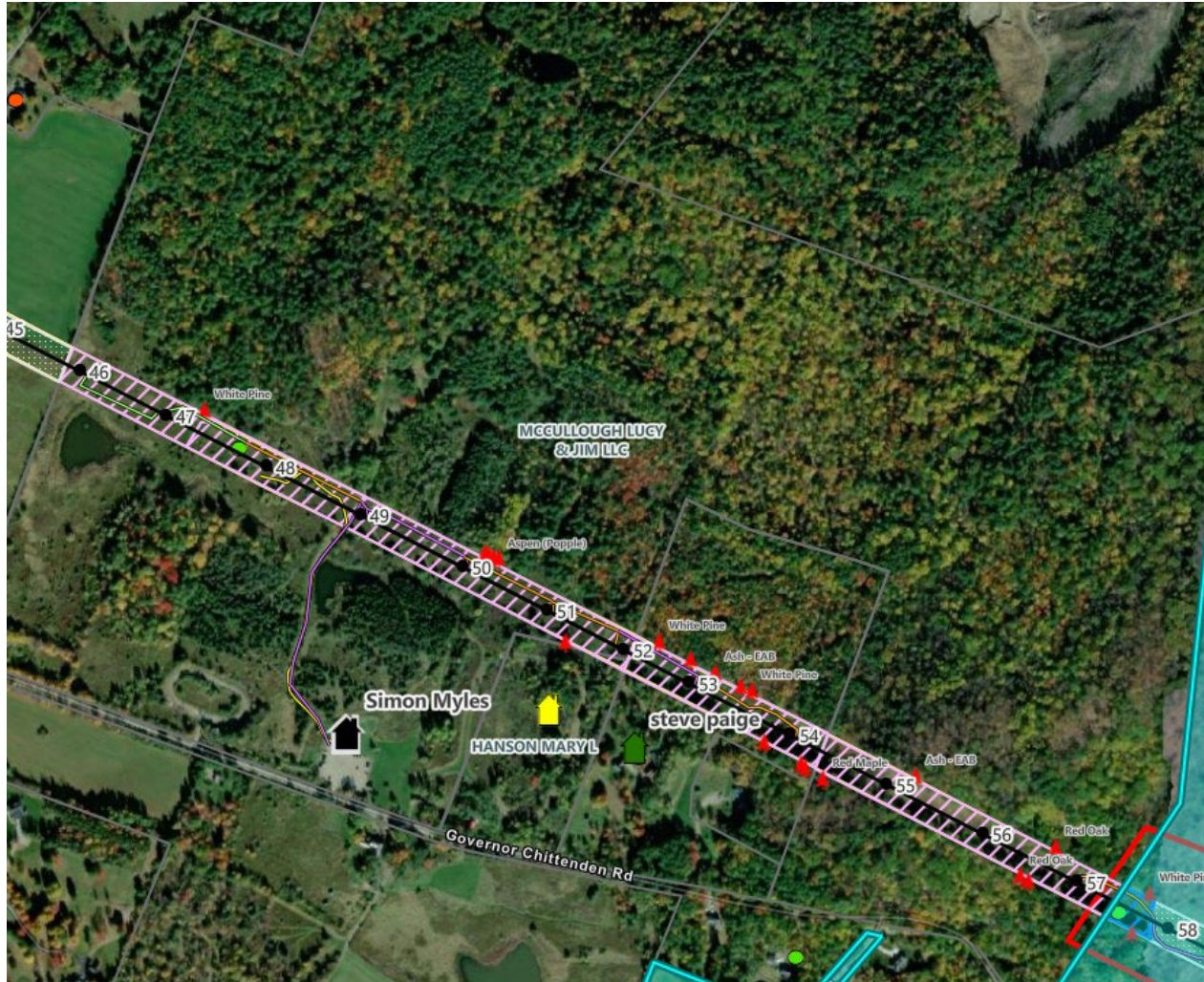
The herbicides used are registered with the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Herbicides will be applied by licensed applicators and in strict compliance with product labels. The use of herbicides is regulated by state and federal regulations. These rules require that applications protect sensitive resources such as a) wells used for public and private drinking water, b) surface waters, c) wetlands, d) populations of rare, threatened, or endangered plants and animals that inhabit the rights of way.

We use a mixture of Rodeo (Glyphosate), Escort XP (metsulfuron methyl), and Polaris (isopropylamine salt of imazapyr) in a carrier called Thinvert which is a surfactant that allows us to apply very low volumes of product in the field and still have an effective treatment. The solution is applied by trained applicators to the leaves of individual trees/saplings during the summer (July – September). Care is taken to impact as few neighboring plants as possible. This product has no reentry restrictions; this means the treatment will be complete in one day and the products we use do not preclude any member of the public or animal from entering the area. Our crews do put up ‘Work in Progress’ signs and we can work with you to notify the public in other ways.




We practice Integrated Vegetation Management, where our goal is to promote low-growing plants to outcompete tree seedlings over time. On our website you will find a video describing our practices: <https://www.velco.com/our-work/environment#steward-video>

Our Right-of-way pesticide permit is posted publicly with the VT Agency of Agriculture.

Map of planned vegetation management on the Catamount Family Outdoor parcel



Legend

-  Widen Area
-  Special Trees (trimming or removal of trees in ROW)
-  Danger Trees (removal of mature trees at ROW edge)

Treatment Area

Prescribed Treatment

-  BSL (Basal)
-  CST (Cut & Stump Treat)
-  CUT (Cut Only No Stump Treat)
-  FLR (Foliar Spray)
-  Foliar then Mow
-  Mow
-  Mow then Foliar
-  New Clearing
-  None