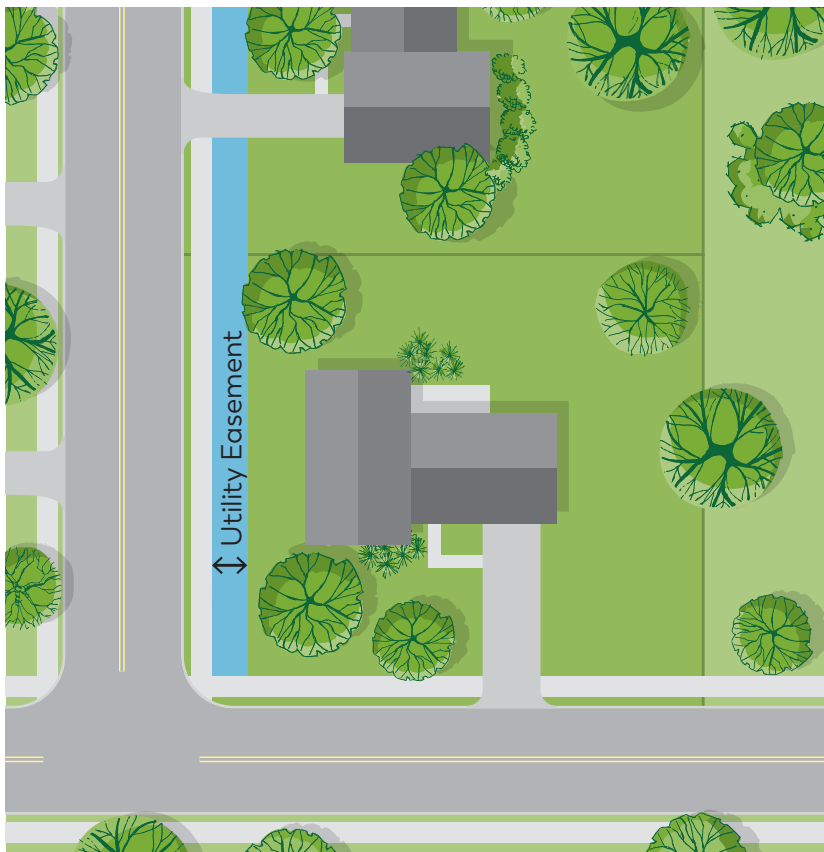


# Understanding the Easement Process

**Consumers Energy**

Count on Us®



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is an easement?

An easement provides a legal right to use a portion of a person's property for a specific purpose.

### Who owns the property after an easement is granted?

The property owner still owns their property and retains the right to use and enjoy it, subject to the rights of the easement.

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# Understanding the Easement Process

## Why would Consumers Energy need a utility easement?

Consumers Energy may need to request an easement from a property owner to ensure we can correctly and safely install, access, and maintain lines and equipment (e.g., pole or pipeline replacement, tree trimming).

Depending on the circumstances, to achieve this goal, an easement may be needed from the property owner requesting service and/or from nearby or adjacent property owners.

## How can you assist the easement process?

You can assist in the easement process by providing any documents or transactions that affect your property. These include:

- Copy of the last recorded deed (can be obtained from County Register of Deeds)
- Property survey (if available)
- Any additional real estate related documents (Land Contracts, Trust documents, Leases, Deed from a split, etc.)

If the route to bring service to you requires us to cross another owner's property, they will need to grant us an easement. It is your responsibility to secure the route. Any information you could provide (e.g., names and contact information) will allow us to initiate contact and could reduce the project's timeline.

If your neighbor refuses to sign an easement or can't be located, an alternative design will be needed, which could cause a delay.

## When will you receive the easement?

After the design for the service is complete and ownership verified, we will provide an easement agreement to you and any necessary neighboring property owners.

Please sign, notarize and return these documents as soon as possible to meet your service timeline.

If there are any questions regarding the easement, our Right of Way Agent (contact information will be provided with the easement) will be happy to discuss the easement with you.

## When will installation be scheduled?

If you have addressed or completed all other prerequisites (including any necessary inspections, site preparation, payment, etc.), and any necessary easement agreements have been signed and returned, your Project Coordinator will work with you to schedule your installation.