



Thursday, October 5, 2006, 11:02 pm

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A little known but lethal form of breast cancer attacks young



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News

Gas Company's Tree Trimming Upsets Herndon Residents

Company Trims Trees To Inspect Easement From Air

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HERNDON, Va. -- A battle over tree trimming is pitting homeowners in Herndon against the company that operates a major gas pipeline.

The company is removing limbs that cover the pipeline so they can do inspections. Residents said the work is unattractive and unsafe.

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation doesn't sell gas but transports it. Columbia said it is trimming trees so it can inspect its easement from the air.

According to residents, that trimming came with little warning.

"It was a little bit of a surprise," said homeowner Gary Tublin. "I wasn't informed it was happening. Total disregard for the health of the trees."

Robert Carter lives next to the easement and took home movies of machinery cutting the branches. Columbia said it is clearing 5 miles of easement in Fairfax County.

"The manner in which they are doing it is going to leave us with a pretty scarred treescape here," Carter said. "And it's going to actually create a hazard, because a lot of these trees are going to die."

Columbia said the trimming is necessary. In a statement, company representative Brent Archer said, "It is our sincere intention to remain respectful of all concerns brought to our attention by property owners who live near these lines, while complying with mandated safety standards and policies to assure ongoing reliable operations."

Residents and politicians will meet Tuesday to see if there can be a compromise.

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