

# IMPROVE YOUR VIEW



A utility box in your yard is not its most ornamental feature. Plantings can soften and conceal these boxes, but be sure to think about access and safety first. This plan leaves 10 feet of clear space in front of the access doors, and 3 feet of clear space on the other sides. But check with your local utility company *before* you start to plant, as individual utility companies have different access requirements. Although we've used mulch directly around this electrical box, some companies also allow low-growing perennials, annuals or ground covers — just choose something that won't be harmed if it gets stepped on. Repeat plants from this plan elsewhere in your yard to draw your eye away from the utility box and toward your beautiful plantings.



**NOTE:** In the updated plan below, there is more space around the utility box than the illustration above shows.

## Plant list (Number to plant)

- A** **Coreopsis** *Coreopsis verticillata* 'Moonbeam' (41)  
Yellow flowers from early to late summer; 18 to 24 in. tall and wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 3 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1
- B** **Inkberry** *Ilex glabra* 'Shamrock' (9)  
Slow-growing broad-leaved evergreen; 3 to 4 ft. tall and wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 4 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1
- C** **Porcupine grass** *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Strictus' (7)  
Yellow-striped leaf blades, white plumes in late summer to fall; 5 to 8 ft. tall, 2 to 6 ft. wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 5 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1
- D** **Catmint** *Nepeta racemosa* 'Walker's Low' (7)  
Purple flowers from early to late summer; 18 to 36 in. tall and wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 3 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1
- E** **Daylily** *Hemerocallis* 'Rosy Returns' (39)  
Slightly fragrant pink blooms from early to late summer; 15 in. tall, 12 to 18 in. wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 3 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1
- F** **Peegee hydrangea** *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Grandiflora' (1)  
White flowers in mid- to late summer; 10 to 25 ft. tall, 8 to 16 ft. wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 3 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1
- G** **Hosta** *Hosta sieboldiana elegans* (6)  
Textured blue-green leaves, white flowers in midsummer; 2 to 3 ft. tall, 3 to 4 ft. wide; cold-hardy in USDA zones 4 to 9; heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1

