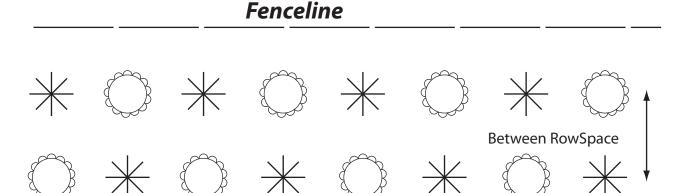
Basic Checkerboard Pattern for Poplar and Spruce.



in row space

In row distance should be at least 12 feet. Smaller distances that this may cause tree death to water stealing between trees. It this looks too open (and it will when the trees are small), plant a shrub between each pair of trees in row. Leave the width of your mower (including discharge chute) + 2 feet between shrub and tree. This may mean increasing the in row space if you have a large mower.

Between row spacing should be at least 15 feet. This gives ample clearance for mowing even as the spruce get large. You can adjust these two dimensions somewhat, but the product of in-row space x between row space should be between 150 and 200. E.g. A 10 foot in-row and 18 foot between row.

Fence to trees: You can make this close to zero, if you don't care if your neighbor prunes his side of the tree. If you want to mow, then leave 12 feet + mower width for spruce, 6 feet + mower width for poplar, and pine, 3 feet + mower width for most willows. How big will they get at the height of the mower deck (spruce)? How big will they get at the height of your face (pine, willow, poplar)? Do you really want to eat all that extra salad without dressing. (If I'm wrong, put in a hedge of willows on the fenceline later.)

Don't crowd the trees. Add more stuff later.