

Fall Tree Care

In older neighborhoods in cold climates many trees have gone through decades of hard winter weather. One of the things that helps them to survive year after year is proper pruning and fertilization. Removing large branches in late fall, when the tree is dormant, means less sap in the branches and less damage to the tree. Pruning creates an open wound that is susceptible to insects and disease; the milder weather minimizes the probability of these types of problems.

Pruning is necessary to shape young trees and to improve the structure and health of mature trees. Fall is an ideal time to prune, as disease and insect problems are less likely to infect pruning wounds.

Fall pruning should include removing crossing or rubbing branches. Look for and remove diseased and cankered areas; also remove dead and damaged limbs. Prune out tight-angled crotches because they are much weaker than wide-angled crotches.

STORM DAMAGE PREVENTION

Trees need love, too! It's easy to take them for granted, until you lose an old friend during a storm, drought, or insect infestation. That's when you realize that mature trees set the tone and pro-

vide depth in a landscape, as well as provide shade and protection from the elements.

It is devastating to stand in a client's yard after a very violent wind and rainstorm caused a prized mature tree, that had stood with others lining her drive, to become uprooted. It was like a death in the family for her, and she immediately became concerned for her other trees.

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Fall is an ideal time to prune...

• PRUNING

Clients are often surprised to find out that there are several things that can be done to protect treasured specimens. When we examine fallen trees, generally the canopy is very dense. Although a heavy canopy can be a sign of good health, it is often part of a mature tree's undoing. A phenomenon known as "wind sail" is when a tree's canopy is so full that the wind cannot get through the branches, and, much like a sail, it blows the tree until it is uprooted. A professional pruning can many times spare these trees.

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Recipe Corner: Pumpkin Pancakes*

1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour	1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
2 tablespoons sugar	1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
2 teaspoons baking powder	1 cup milk
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon	6 tablespoons pumpkin puree
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger	2 tablespoons butter, melted
1/2 teaspoon salt	1 egg

Stir together the flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon, ginger, salt, nutmeg, and cloves in a medium bowl.

Whisk together the milk, pumpkin, butter and egg in a separate bowl. Fold this mixture into the dry ingredients.

Melt butter in a skillet over medium heat.

Pour 1/4 cup batter for each pancake and cook approximately 3 minutes per side.

**Tested & Approved by the household of Justin & Brenda Davis*

Serve with butter and maple syrup.

Summer

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Mulch Delivery Is BACK! Call for details. 817-274-8733

Cindy's Retirement Party!



In July, J Davis Tree Service congratulated Cindy on her retirement. She served us faithfully for nine years and in that time we came to know and love her. We know that many of you did also. She handled each phone call with care and treated each customer as a jewel to be treasured. She has a gift for remembering people and making them feel special.

On her last day, we surprised her with a retirement party. We had the works: food, cake and gifts. Though we hated to say goodbye to a loyal employee and friend, we know that she's just a phone call away and made her promise to stop in at the office occasionally to visit. We are happy that she has more time to spend with the ones that mean the most to her doing the things she loves. Congratulations, Cindy, from all of us!

Fall Tree Care

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• **SOIL AERATION AND FERTILIZATION**

In addition, we notice that there are very few hair roots on the trees. Feeder roots are essential to maintaining the health and vitality of older trees.

Incorporating soil aeration and fertilization into your Tree Health Care Program by injecting our PHC Bio-Pak Plus directly into the root zone of your trees in the spring, summer and fall will help develop root structure, improve stability and drought resistance. Fertilizing is absolutely essential during near-drought conditions such as those that we have been experiencing.

In order to ensure a bountiful green turnout in the spring, a fall tree care program is essential to prepare your trees for exposure to the sun, wind, and freezing temperatures. Each part of a tree performs a unique and critical role, so it is important that your fall tree care program covers all the bases.

CARING FOR TREE COMPONENTS

• **Branches**

By supporting and extending them toward the sky, branches afford leaves maximum exposure to the sun's rays. Pruning branches periodically preserves the tree's overall health and appearance while enhancing growth and preventing damage to life and property around the tree. If branch structure is weak, professional pruning can prevent breakage and add extra strength against winter wind, ice, and heavy snow.

• **Roots**

The life of a tree begins with the roots. Water is absorbed through the roots to compensate for transpiration (the loss of moisture through the leaves during photosynthesis). Hair-like roots take in rainwater and any available water in the soil. The largest roots hold the tree securely in the ground and keep it from toppling over. The most serious threat to the root zone is lack of water. Be sure to provide adequate amounts of water up until the beginning of hard frost. Fertilizing and soil aeration with PHC Bio-Pak Plus, an organic-based fertilizer, will also help by promoting root development and stress tolerance.

• **Soil**

Soil is the tree's resource for nutrients and water. Compacted soil, severe moisture loss, and fluctuation in soil temperature hinders the tree's ability to absorb water and minerals. Presurized soil aeration with an application of mulch will help by maintaining a more suitable soil temperature and oxygen movement. In addition, it aids in root development and reduces the need for weeding in the spring.

Preserving your trees will ultimately benefit the environment. In addition to their beauty and shade, trees add property value and act as a buffer to wind and noise. Most importantly, trees purify the air by absorbing dust and pollutants, carbon dioxide, and producing oxygen, the root of life. So when the trees start to change colors and begin to lose their leaves and fade into the scenery, remember, spring is not the only time to care for your trees. With extra tender loving care before winter, your trees will be ready to flourish when spring arrives.

Protect Pets During Winter Weather



Your dog or cat may have a thick, furry coat, but it will be no match for winter weather. Even outdoor dogs should be inside when winds blow or temperatures drop to 20 degrees.

Outdoor dogs should have a dry, draft-free house large enough for them to sit or lie down comfortably but small enough to hold body heat. The floor should be raised and covered with straw and blankets. Consider buying a heated pet mat that could save your dog's life.

Pets who are outdoors need more food and water in winter because keeping them warm burns energy. Use plastic bowls. Your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal. Remember that your dog's water needs to be fresh every day.

Shovel a path to their favorite spots so they won't have to go through snow.

Cats and short-haired dogs should be kept inside during winter except for their exercise breaks. All are social animals who need your companionship.



"These fit well. Do you have them in a more hideous pattern?"

The Lighter Side

Leather

When a woman wears leather clothing, a man's heart beats faster. His throat gets dry. He gets weak in the knees and begins to think irrationally. Ever wonder why? She smells like a new truck!

Old Man

He was eating lunch at a truck stop when three bikers walked in. The first pushed his cigarette into the old man's pie, then took a seat at the counter. The second spit in the old man's milk, then took a seat at the counter. The third turned his plate over and then took a seat at the counter.

The old man left without a word. One of the bikers said to the waitress, "Humph, not much of a man is he?"

The waitress replied: "Not much of a truck driver either. He just backed his truck over three motorcycles."

What To Do

An elderly couple just bought cellphones and learned how to text. She was the romantic type and one afternoon sent him this message.

"If you are sleeping, send me your dreams.

If you are laughing, send me your smile.

If you are eating, send me a bite.

If you are drinking, send me a sip.

If you are crying, send me your tears. I love you."

The husband texted back to her: "I'm in the bathroom. Please advise."



Thank you!



Thanks to YOU the word is spreading!

Thanks to all of our wonderful clients and friends who graciously referred us to their friends and neighbors last month! Our business runs on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you! We couldn't do it without you!

Here is just a small sample of the many compliments we've received in recent weeks...

We want to thank the 4-man crew you sent to cut our trees. They did a fantastic job!! They were really fast, very efficient, very polite and really cleaned up every leaf & twig afterwards. We will gladly recommend your company & will definitely use you again when the need arises! Thanks!

~ Bill & Karen Hopkins, Arlington

The guys have been doing the same great job at my house for almost 19 years. The trees look great. Clean up was very good, as always.

~ Ron Gentry, Colleyville

This crew did a great job for us. We're very pleased. They were professional, well-mannered and worked hard. Our tree is smiling!! Al Morin, Southlake

~ Al Morin, Southlake

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.

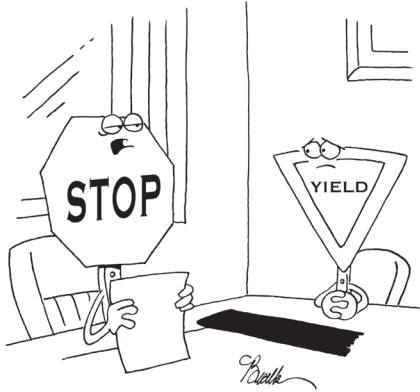
~ Edward Everett Hale, editor and author of 60 books



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"I'm afraid we need someone with a little more backbone for this position."

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JDavis shredded wood mulch is guaranteed to contain no nitrogen-stealing recycled pallet wood. Our nitrogen-rich mulch enhances soil fertility as it decomposes, reducing the need for fertilizer applications.

Once you put our mulch down, it stays in place – even during high winds and heavy rains. JDavis Shredded Wood Mulch decomposes 30% slower than shredded bark, so you won't have to replace it as often.

Our premium decorative mulch is available in three colors: Cedar (Red), Brown and Natural (not colored).



Add beauty and protection to your garden by applying our all-natural mulches. Mulch inhibits weed growth, holds in soil moisture, and moderates soil-temperature fluctuations. It makes the perfect base for walkways and play areas.

Its multi-purpose functionality makes it the single most valuable addition to any garden.

MEGA TRIVIA!

Who Wants to Win a \$40 Restaurant Certificate?

Take our Trivia Challenge and you could win, too!

This is one of our favorite parts of the newsletter! Each issue we'll give you a new trivia question. We will draw from the people who submit the correct answer. Three names will win a \$40 restaurant certificate. Enjoy a night out on us with someone special in your life! Remember, your chances of winning are better than you think!

This issue's MegaTrivia Question is...

How many states does the Appalachian Trail run through?

*Email answers to jdavistrivia@gmail.com
or call us at 817-831-TREE (8733)*

Last Newsletter's Trivia Answer was: Detroit Tigers.

Last Issue's Trivia Winners enjoyed a night out on us! You could be next!

Mary Boone, Arlington
Betty Hassett, North Richland Hills
Marvin Martin, Arlington

A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.

– Francis Bacon

Riches don't make a man rich, they only make him busier.

– Christopher Columbus