

Here are some tree-care tips to keep your greenspace growing!

Winter

- ✓ Clean-up agricultural fence lines to improve crop yields.
- ✓ Prune young trees for structure and form.
- ✓ Prune fruit trees to maintain health and production.
- ✓ Apply dormant oil and lime Sulphur to spongy moth egg masses in late winter.
- ✓ Remove dead, dying, diseased, weakly-attached, and low-vigor branches from the crown of trees, making cuts at the branch collar.
- ✓ Prune oak and elm trees in winter months to reduce the risk of oak wilt and Dutch elm disease.
- ✓ Reduce stress on limbs from windy weather by cabling weak areas.
- ✓ Schedule lot clearing in preparation for spring building projects.
- ✓ Allow snow and ice build-up to melt off branches for best recovery rates.
- ✓ Schedule tree pruning around utility lines.

Spring

- ✓ Apply a thin layer of natural mulch in a doughnut shape around tree extending to trees dripline to retain moisture.
- ✓ Remove support stakes and protective wrap.
- ✓ Prune evergreens and hedges to maintain health and form.
- ✓ Use a biological insecticide like Btk to control spongy moth caterpillars.
- ✓ Install fertilizer spikes to ensure a continuous supply of nutrients for tree root systems.
- ✓ Grind out stumps, fill hole with topsoil, and plant grass seed.
- ✓ Assess trees for winter damage. Schedule brush chipping to clean-up branches.
- ✓ Reduce density by thinning foliage to increase wind and light penetration and promote interior development.
- ✓ Avoid unhealthy pruning techniques like "topping" or "lions-tailing".
- ✓ Prune flowering trees after blooming for a healthy display next year.

Summer

- ✓ Wondering whether to remove?
Consider:
 - Is the trunk hollow?
 - Are more than 30% of the branches dead?
 - Is the tree leaning significantly?
 - Is there a severe fungus or infestation affecting the tree?Hire a pro for risky removals.
- ✓ Inspect trees after summer storms for impact caused by strong winds, heavy rainfall, or lightning strikes.
- ✓ Raise the canopy by removing lower tree branches to improve clearance and views.
- ✓ Use burlap banding or sticky tape to trap spongy moth caterpillars.
- ✓ Water trees weekly, applying water slowly so it can be absorbed; use a watering bag for newly planted trees.
- ✓ To avoid the spread of disease, don't move campfire wood from area to another.
- ✓ Reduce cooling costs with shade trees.
- ✓ To avoid unsightly (and sticky) sap, prune maples and birch trees late in the summer.

Fall

- ✓ Refresh natural mulch to insulate roots.
- ✓ Celebrate National Tree Day in September. Attend an educational tree care presentation or be part of a planting project.
- ✓ Plant native trees species by digging a shallow broad hole and filling it with soil up to the trunk flare.
- ✓ Scrape spongy moth egg masses off trees and dispose of them.
- ✓ Rather than raking, use your lawn mower to mulch leaves.
- ✓ Install fertilizer spikes to ensure a continuous supply of nutrients for tree root systems.
- ✓ Repurpose wood from removals into woodworking projects.
- ✓ Wrap ornamental trees exposed to road salt or harsh conditions in burlap before winter.
- ✓ Stock up on local firewood to fuel your woodstove.
- ✓ Prune evergreens and hedges and save clippings for holiday décor.

Reduce costs by providing proper tree care when trees are young and ensuring you hire qualified, insured professionals for complex tree care projects.

Check out "Treehouse Treasures" for unique tree-related books, apparel, and gifts.

For a **FREE ESTIMATE** call **519-845-0847** or visit wyoingtreeservice.ca

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