

Stressed out Trees

Not just sticks in the dirt

Did you know that trees are more than just sticks in the dirt? They get stressed out, they're reactionary to treatments, and they can be rather moody.

Especially if they are in an area they don't like. They will find ways to let you know.

When a tree is stressed out it makes it susceptible to disease and pests, and sometimes makes them unsafe/unstable. All of which could cut their life span short. The maintenance can get expensive too if the stressor(s) aren't dealt with in a timely manner. Here are some tips to help keep your tree happy and healthy.

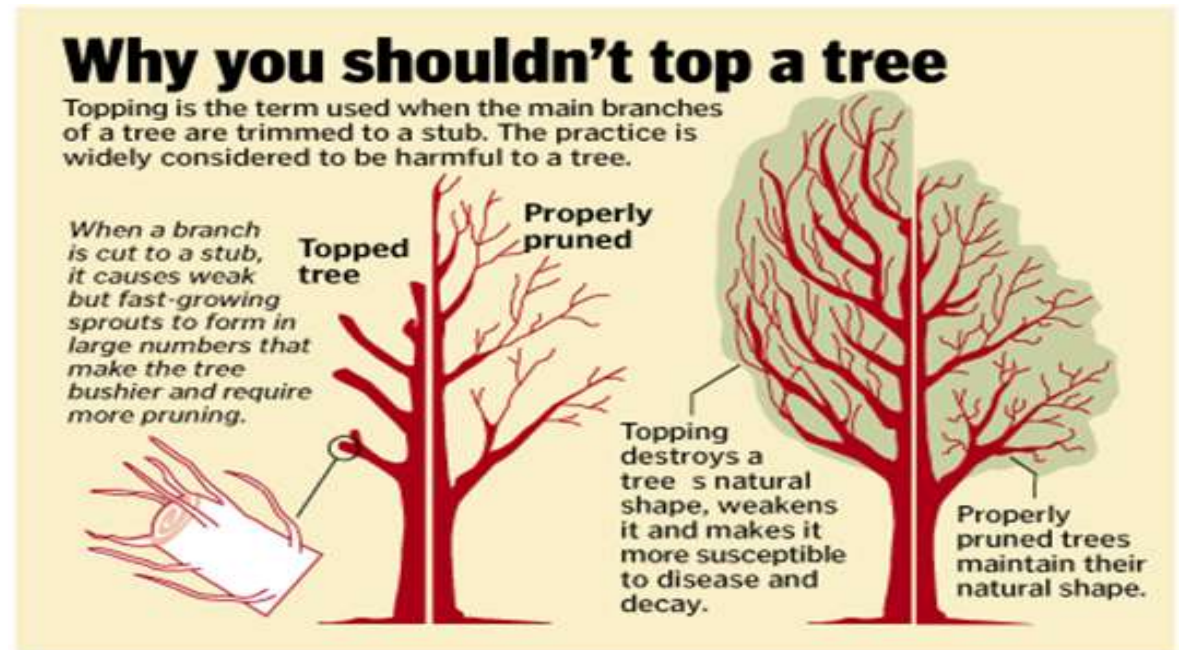
Proper Planting Practices: the right tree in the right place and planted properly. Not in the burlap/basket/cage, right planting depths and proper watering.

Regular Checkups and Pruning: We go to the doctor, our pets go to the vet, our trees need a professional's checkup too. Like us, trees need their proper nutrients, and a keen eye can diagnose and recommend treatments for deficiencies.

Mulching let's keep those roots happy. Like us, if our feet are happy, we are happy. If your tree has suffering roots, they're going to let you know.



Call us to check up on your tree to help keep it happy, healthy and safe.



Source: Dana Karcher, certified arborist with The Davey Resource Group, a division of The Davey Tree Expert Company

THE CALIFORNIAN

A company that cares about trees will not top them. They will present you with other pruning practices that will keep your trees healthy and safe and meet your objectives.

Tree Preservation

Topping is an Unethical Practice

Proper Pruning & Maintenance are Much Cheaper

Topping trees, although a common malpractice, has been recognized as unethical for 100 years. Around the world many governments speak against topping and discourage it in their communities. Educated professionals who care about trees won't perform this malicious treatment. There are numerous Arboriculture websites that speak strongly against it, such as; https://www.treesaregood.org/Portals/0/TreesAreGood_Why%20Topping%20Hurts_0321.pdf

Facts about Topping.

It Stresses Your Tree Out. Topping removes the leaf bearing parts of the crown preventing the tree from making its own food and temporarily starving your tree. As a defense it sends out epicormic shoots (suckers) in order to save itself and be able to feed itself

Does not Control Crown Size or Safety: The act of topping actually forces the tree to send out massive amounts of unstable new growth to reform the crown of your

tree. In some species of trees, you could see 20-foot shoots in one year. This new growth is poorly attached and poorly formed and can cause your tree to lose limbs in winds. This new growth is growing from just below a wound that decays on the parent branch. These weak attachments will never have the structural integrity that the original branches had. The stubs rarely heal over properly which can open your tree to disease and pests that take advantage of these weakened points.

It's Expensive to Maintain: With these weakened limbs/suckers growing quickly it needs constant care which grows into a vicious cycle of repeated pruning. Eventually your tree will die due to the cumulative stress and damage resulting in more money to remove it and/or replace it.

Tip of the day

Know who you're hiring

When hiring someone to work on your property always make sure they have WCB and liability insurance for tree care. If they call themselves an Arborist confirm their credentials.

www.treesaregood.org

Home & Garden Show

April 14th -16th

We will be at the Home & Garden Show this year. Come by and say hi to our team and snag some fun swag.

April 14th 4pm to 9pm

April 15th 10am to 5pm

April 16th 10am to 4pm

Consultations

Book your consult soon

Book your consultation today because they book up quickly.

As of April 1st, consult fees will be pre-paid prior to the consultation.

Mulching & Fertilizing

Set your trees and shrubs up for a great growing season.

As the snow recedes and our yards start to wake up with the warming temperatures and sunshine, its time to put on our work gloves and set our yards up for success.

One of these ways is to clean up the mulch under your trees and shrubs by pulling the invading grass and topping up with new mulch. Make sure the mulch never sits against nor goes up the stem of your tree. Having mulch against your stem is like wrapping a dirty soggy bandage around your leg. Good intention at first but damaging in the end. When sourcing mulch make sure your provider can tell you how old it is and if any diseased plants may have been mixed into it. You never want to accidentally bring disease into your yard.

When fertilizing you need to take a couple things into consideration. Will my grass fertilizer or herbicide hurt my tree? Which fertilizers are adequate for trees, and will it just feed the grass.

When administering fertilizer for just your tree you need to know the right concentrations and how to apply it affectively to benefit your tree. Will the grass absorb it, or will it make it to the roots? What is the best way to administer it? What is the ideal time of day or season that the tree will absorb the fertilizer better?

Consult us today and let us take the hard work out of your hands, and into ours. We can help keep your trees healthy and safe by providing safe mulch and properly administered fertilizers



Spring is in the air and we are looking forward to woking on your trees again. We will be taking a break from pruning while your trees are leafing out and done flowering in. Until then order your mulch and have us apply it for you.



Know what to look for and what to avoid- All the trees shown above, fail due to excessive pruning of the lower limbs which will lead to inadequate stem taper.

Selecting the Right Tree to Plant

Do you think your yard needs a tree(s)? Selecting the right tree for the right location is vital. However, do your research. What is the full mature tree going to look like? Is it a deep rooter or does it have shallow surface roots? How will it impact your yard? If it gets stressed, will it send out suckers in yours or your neighbours' yard? When you do finally decide which tree to plant where do you buy it and how do you pick a healthy tree? Here are some tips to help you find the right tree.
Tree spade size: If you have purchased a tree that is in ground, you want to

make sure they have a spade that will get enough of the roots and not damage the current root ball. Yes, roots grow but if damaged badly enough you are just cutting your investment short. Also, any tree over 1 inch in diameter should be root pruned so that you have adequate fine root volume to survive transplant and thrive.

Pot Size: Too small of a pot and you won't have adequate roots for survival and growth after transplant or you will have girdling roots.

Root flare: The root flare or at least one structural buttress root should be showing above the soil line.

Companion Planting

Companion planting is where you plant two or more plants close together that benefit from being together. For example, fruit trees should be planted in tandem for cross pollination, and they get along with plants such as alliums, tansies, nasturtiums, marigolds, lemon balm and some other flowering plants. This helps bring in and attract pollinators or draw pests away from your tree. Leguminous plants like clover, buffaloberry and lupins fix nitrogen into the soil. Always do your research to make sure your plants do work well together. Not all are compatible and can be alternate hosts for rust fungi.



Talk to our Arborists about plants that might work well with the trees in your yard, and how they might co-exist.

