

Treeways

October 2013

Trouble with your trees ... ask the City Forester

One of the tasks of the City Forester is consulting with property owners about tree issues and some of the most common questions include:

“Does my tree have oak wilt or Dutch elm disease?”

“Does my ash have emerald ash borer and should I treat my ash tree for it?”

“Is buckthorn really bad?”

“What tree should I plant here?”

“What kind of trees do I have?”

“Why are the leaves turning brown?”

“What are the bumps on the leaves and stems and should I be concerned?”

Meeting with property owners on these and other tree issues is a service the City provides in the belief that high quality, healthy woodlands and meadows in Sunfish Lake are good for all of us.

Only a small percentage of tree concerns require any action more involved than watering during drought times or increased use of shredded wood mulch. If you have tree issues that do require action, the City Forester is available to help you and your neighbors sort through available scientifically based treatment options and potential tree care providers.

Most tree diseases and insect problems develop over a period of time, more often measured in years rather than in weeks. Likewise successful treatment programs are likely to take time to be most effective.

Remember using shredded wood mulch (up to 3”- 4” thick) around your trees is good no matter what color mulch you decide to use. Larger areas of wood mulch are even better!

And finally, beware of so-called tree care providers wearing climbing spikes! **Never let anyone climb your live trees while wearing climbing spikes.** The damage they do is permanent and completely unnecessary. Qualified professional climbers only use climbing spikes when doing tree removals.

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