



**Tree Care
Landscaping
Consulting Services**

Our experienced staff include:

Judson R. Scott, Registered Consulting Arborist, Certified Arborist
Chuck Miller, Forester, Certified Arborist/Utility Specialist, Pesticide Applicator
Mike Pell, Residential/Commercial Sales

Definitions and Descriptions of Terms used in the Tree Service Industry

Arboriculture: the art, science, technology, and business of commercial, public, and utility tree care.

Arborist: an individual engaged in the profession of arboriculture who, through experience, education, and related training, possesses the competence to provide for or supervise the management of trees and other woody plants.

Tree Preservation: [learn more](#) - (.pdf version)

Risk Evaluation: [learn more](#)

Plant Appraisal: Why trees and landscaping add value to any property.

Pruning Practices: definitions according to ANSI A300 (Part 1)-2001 Pruning



- **Crown:** the leaves and branches of a tree measured from the lowest branch on the trunk to the top of the tree.
- **Limb:** a large prominent branch.
- **Leader:** a dominant or co-dominant, upright stem.
- **Decay:** the degradation of woody tissue caused by microorganisms.
- **Pruning:** the selective removal of plant parts to meet specific goals and objectives.
 - **Crown cleaning:** removes the deadwood, as well as diseased, broken, and poorly attached branches and waterspouts.
 - **Crown thinning:** removes selected branches to allow for better light penetration and air movement, and to reduce weight.
 - **Crown raising:** removes lower branches over sidewalks, roofs, etc.
 - **Crown reduction:** reduces the height and/or spread of the tree by proper pruning back to lateral branches so the tree will maintain proper structure and be able to thrive.

Tree Surgery practices

- **Cabling:** method of providing extra support to limbs with weak junctions. Cables are installed 2/3 up between the limb junction and the branch tips. Bolts are inserted into or through the limbs and cables are attached.
- **Bracing:** the use of steel rods in limbs, leaders, or trunks to provide rigid support for a tree. Bracing is used to reinforce weak or split branch junctions, or to strengthen decayed areas. In most cases, bracing is used in combination with cabling, not as a substitute.
- **Staking:** the installation of guy wires to artificially support a tree. Staking of trees tends to be permanent because the tree will probably not produce the roots or wood necessary to support itself once it has been staked.
- **Root pruning:** the clean severing of tree roots with specialized equipment to the depth of and prior to excavation near the tree. Soil excavation equipment shreds and tears roots causing unnecessary damage to the root system.
- **Damage restoration:** selective pruning to improve the structure, form, and appearance of trees that have been severely topped, vandalized, or damaged by storms or other events.

Tree Removal: the total cutting down of a tree that is so decayed and/or structurally unsound that no other options exist for ensuring the safety of persons or structures.

Stump removal: grinding the main stump and raking the chips into the hole.

Crane removal: use of a type of hoisting equipment for removing hazardous limbs and trees to ensure the safety of our arborists and the property on which we are working.

Lot clearing: the cutting down of trees on a parcel or tract of land, or portion thereof, for the purpose of providing sufficient clear space for the construction of structures or other uses.

Lot stump clearing: the grinding of main stumps from trees removed in lot clearing.

Lightning Protection: Trees within twenty feet of a home or building may need to be protected with a lightning protection system.

Things **not** to be done:

- **Topping:** The reduction of a tree's size using heading cuts that shorten limbs or branches back to a predetermined crown limit. Topping is not an acceptable pruning practice.
- **Lion's tailing:** The removal of an excessive number of inner, lateral branches from parent branches. Lion's tailing is not an acceptable pruning practice.

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