



TREEmendous News

TreeMasters, Inc.

Fall, 2007

Fall Fertilization

TreeMasters Certified Arborist, Tom Myers, recently sat down to answer some questions about Fall fertilization:

Why is fertilization in the Fall so important?

Fall fertilization benefits the tree by providing nutrients when the roots are most active. This encourages root growth, even when the tree appears "dormant", and helps the tree to resume growth in the spring. Nutrients are used immediately and stored for uptake in the spring.

What does TreeMasters use when you fertilize?

TM uses a slow-release, organic fertilizer that contains a micronutrient package as well as beneficial soil inhabiting bacteria. We also incorporate high concentrations of humates and sea kelp. This product is delivered under pressure which mechanically fractures the subsoils.

Why is this better?

Trees need slow-release fertility. The Humate (Humic acid) adds organic matter to the soil, increases biological activity in the soil (incl. earthworms), stimulates root growth, and improves soil structure. Bottom line - we are changing your soil to more closely imitate rich, natural, undisturbed soil.

With this summer being so dry, should I still fertilize?



Yes, still fertilize! Drought causes death of tree roots. Fall fertilization stimulates tree root growth. It's the best investment one can make. Do it!

What happens to trees if you don't fertilize them?

Since most trees are in lawns, their tree root zones lack organic matter, because people remove leaves and fallen limbs which nature would recycle. Soil compaction and competition with grass guarantees poorer conditions for root growth. It has been demonstrated that a tree's roots are about 5 times more dense under mulch than under grass. Homeowners desire turf, but to mulch the entire root zone of their trees is impractical. The alternative is routine fertilization with humates. Without fertilization, many urban trees become more susceptible to problems and are predisposed to injury.



Hey, Tom:

What is an Air Knife?

The Air-knife is a tool that uses compressed air to safely excavate soil from tree roots without causing damage. This technology was first developed by the US military to clear land mines.

The overwhelming majority of trees that I see are over-mulched and planted too deep. This causes abnormal tree roots, and over time, roots encircle the trunk as the tree grows bigger in diameter (usually within 10-20 years). I have seen hundreds of trees literally choked by these girdling roots.

Evergreens are especially susceptible to excess mulch placed against the trunk of the tree. The thin bark of evergreens will be destroyed by using too much mulch.

A root collar excavation with the Air Knife can be used to remove the excess mulch or mounded dirt which causes girdling roots and trunk rot.. When the problems are alleviated, clients notice graphic improvement the year after root collar excavation... The trees respond that quickly!

Please contact us for more information! ~Tom Myers

Investment in fertilization and other care will insure decades of value for landscape trees.



TreeMasters, Inc.

making a better future for your trees... and the environment

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**FALL AND WINTER
ARE THE BEST TIMES
TO PRUNE YOUR TREES!**

Lack of Rain Affects Trees, Too

The heat and drought of this summer does more than create discomfort for us. It is brutal on our trees. Many trees have been damaged by the lack of water, but we can't see the effects until 2008.

One symptom of drought stress is the premature loss of leaves. If your trees have lost leaves in the summer, or have thinner canopies, it is an indication of trouble to come.

Drought-stressed trees become susceptible to root rots, which will cause further decline and can produce a dangerous tree. Many insects which compromise trees attack drought-stressed trees.

Fort Wayne soils are mostly heavy clay. When the ground has cracks, the soil is so dry and hard, roots cannot grow. In the lakes area, the sandy soils dry out easily and as water tables drop, trees are left high and dry for weeks!

Trees either grow or die; there is no static state. The weather of 2007 has placed hundreds of thousands of trees in a negative condition. Pro-active care is the only solution for trees valued in the landscape.

Have a TREEmendous Day!

For eighteen years, people who have called TreeMasters and have been told to "Have a TREEmendous Day!" Now, we begin a new era in our tree-care services as we announce the opening of

www.TREEmendousDay.com.

At **TREEmendousDay.com**, you'll be able to find out more information about our current projects and answers to your tree-care questions. You'll also be able to contact us directly from the website.

You can still contact the TreeMasters Staff by phone at: (260) 447-0171,

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