



TREEmendous News

TreeMasters, Inc.

Summer, 2008

HEY, JEFF!

TreeMasters' Registered Consulting Arborist, Jeff Ling, recently sat down to talk about the Bagworms, Mimosa Webworms and Fall Webworms:

Bagworms, Mimosa Webworms and Fall Webworms are all mid- and late-summer defoliators. They eat the leaves of the trees.

Bagworms feed on Evergreens and prefer Arborvitae and Spruce. They will eat Cyprus, Juniper, and if necessary, any evergreen plant. This pest has become epidemic in Allen County and Northern Indiana and can literally remove all the needles of a tree in three years. This means the tree is lost and has to be removed and replaced. The insect can be identified by a conical bag made of the needles of the tree. These become evident in mid-July and will be about 1/8 inch long. Over the next four weeks, they will grow to be over an inch long. The larger the larvae, the more feeding damage occurs. Topical sprays over the entire tree or shrub are recommended during the second or third week of July. TreeMasters utilizes pyrethrin which offers full control with the lowest environmental impact.

Mimosa Webworm is a pest focused almost exclusively on Honey Locust trees. They produce a small netted bag of leaves at the end of twigs. Because there are two generations a year, by August, many trees are completely covered with webs. One negative feature is that many times the worms will dangle from silken threads, creating a distasteful landscape experience. When ready to pupate, the worms will attach a silken cocoon to trees, houses, and any other non-moving hardscapes adjacent to the tree; these become extremely difficult to remove. TreeMasters relies on systemic insecticides which have no environmental consequences outside the trees and only impact those insects feeding on the leaves.

Fall webworms are a "netting insect" that spin large, silken bags over the branches of hickory and walnut trees. This late-summer pest produces little negative consequence for the trees but can be perceived as a negative feature in a cultured landscape. Control is usually provided by systemic injections identical to the Mimosa Webworm.

The population of all three insects has grown greatly in Indiana over the past decade. If you have questions or concerns about your trees, contact a TreeMasters, Inc. Arborist today.



Root Girdling

In mid summer, many trees begin to lose leaves or have a general thinning of canopy. Often TreeMasters is called with the presumption that a bug or disease is causing the defoliation. However, in many properties in Northern Indiana, this situation is not created by a pathogen, but is a problem caused by girdled roots.

Many landscape trees have been planted too deeply in the landscape. This fosters an abnormal rooting structure which will begin to pinch off buttress roots and the sap flow that sustains the canopy. These symptoms are gradual and take several years to become noticeable. Without intervention, the tree will continue to lose its leaf mass and will eventually have entire branches dying.

September and October are ideal times for the intervention. The newest tool in urban forestry to correct root anomalies and difficulties, the Air Knife®, is available to benefit your trees. When coupled with fertilization, the tree's response and re-growth as well as its value in the landscape can be maximized.

Are you experiencing problems with your trees? TreeMasters' Arborists are experienced in both new and proven techniques to help you & your trees.



The Oaks @ 300 S

"The Oaks @ 300s" is a rare, **limited resource in quality nursery trees**. Hundreds of 25'-35' oaks are available for transplanting. More importantly, the **price is comparable with trees half the size**. Golf clubs, municipalities, horticulture professionals, builders and homeowners can all purchase trees.

Turn-key planting services are also available.

Trees are your best antiques. ~Alexander Smith



TreeMasters, Inc.

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

P.O. Box 6553
Fort Wayne, IN 46896-6553

Phone: 260-447-0171
Fax: 260-447-7827
Email: info@TREEmendousDay.com
Web: www.TREEmendousDay.com

**SUMMER – WHEN
MANY TREE ISSUES ARE
MOST VISIBLE.**

Consequences of Nuisance Mammals

Many suburban landscapes create environments that encourage nuisance mammals to reside and feed on landscape plants. Properties along lakes and ponds often experience an even more unattractive result.

The number one vertebrate pest in Midwest landscapes is the **white-tailed deer**. In the spring and summer, they can savage and destroy whole beds of perennials and annuals in one night. In the winter, they will browse and even destroy shrubs and low hanging tree branches.

Rabbits and field mice will browse on flowers and on the stems of woody perennials and shrubs. In the wintertime, woody plants can be completely girdled and killed. This situation is accelerated with heavy snowfalls, when other natural food sources are covered.

No other animal has become more acclimated to the suburban environment than the **raccoon**. These animals can feed on a large variety of landscape plants, and they will feed in garbage cans, spreading debris. Unlike other pests, raccoons will even enter the house, making the house its own sanctuary. An important side risk to raccoons in the landscape is their territorial nature and they will defend aggressively, and have been known to attack pets and people; while rabies is a very small risk, it is still a reality in northern Indiana.

Of all vertebrate pests, the **Canada Goose** makes the most mess of a landscape. The average goose deposits 3 lbs of manure each day in the turf environment where it feeds. This pollution also negatively impacts water quality of ponds and lakes. In the spring time, nesting pairs, can become very aggressive and will attack people and pets.

All of these pests can have a negative consequence to the landscape and TreeMasters, Inc. has procedures and products that will protect your landscape and restore it to your usage and enjoyment. For more information contact us either by phone or email.