

~ From Roots to Shoots ~



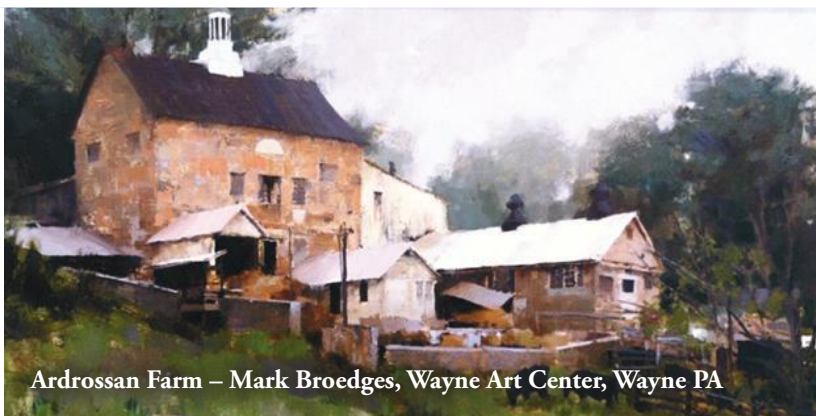
FALL '20 / WINTER '21
NEWSLETTER



Jenkins Arboretum, Devon PA



Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden, Villanova PA



Ardrossan Farm – Mark Broedges, Wayne Art Center, Wayne PA

Why Trees Uproot?

- *Pest Updates*
 - *Winter Pruning Tips*
 - *Friendly Plant I.D. App*
 - *Visit Our New Website*
- & more inside!

A Note from Steve

Holy moly 2020 – we won't soon forget. Certain years have pivotal events, 2020 feels like one of those eventful years. Despite the effects of Covid in our communities, we were fortunate to be able to continue maintaining and caring for our clients' trees. As we adjusted and coped with the new normal, our staff was able to safely conduct work in the community. I guess an added benefit to working outdoors. We continue to take measures to protect our employees' and clients' health and well-being as this virus evolves. I'm grateful to all of our clients who were so understanding and flexible this past spring and summer due to our disrupted work schedule.

The cooler spring weather greatly benefited flowering trees and shrubs. Many of our clients expressed how nice it was to be around their homes to enjoy the spring blossoms. As we all started spending more time at home, this allowed us to reevaluate the landscape, house maintenance, and other life essentials. Many honey-do lists were created and completed.

On June 3, straight line winds referred to as a Derecho hit the Main Line. In my 34 years of caring for trees, this was the most severe and widespread tree damage event ever. There were many complexities managing this cleanup effort. The sheer volume of large whole trees on houses and other structures was extensive. Then to add insult to injury, we then had an additional 7" rain event with strong winds on August 5th. The last thing you or Shreiner Tree Care needed was another down tree. I'm happy to see this summer behind us.

Storm events of this magnitude put a tremendous amount of stress on everyone. I would like to personally acknowledge and apologize to any of our clients who had to wait longer than usual for us to assist in your cleanup effort. We have looked at new action steps to improve our client communication during such events.

Sadly, many beautiful trees were lost this summer, so now is good time to plant new trees to fill in those open spaces.



Our arborists can help you select from several different types of trees that would be best suited for your landscape. As for the remaining trees on your property, they should be inspected for their health and structural integrity. A Shreiner arborist can perform a tree risk assessment inspection on any tree that causes you concern.

Please enjoy the articles in our newsletter. Also, our newly designed website has **a fun look back at our company's history.**

As we move into the fall and winter months, I wish continued health and happiness to you and your family in the coming New Year.

Sincerely,

Steve



Please Visit
our new website
ShreinerTreeCare.com



Saturated Soils With Strong Winds is a 1-2 Punch For Trees

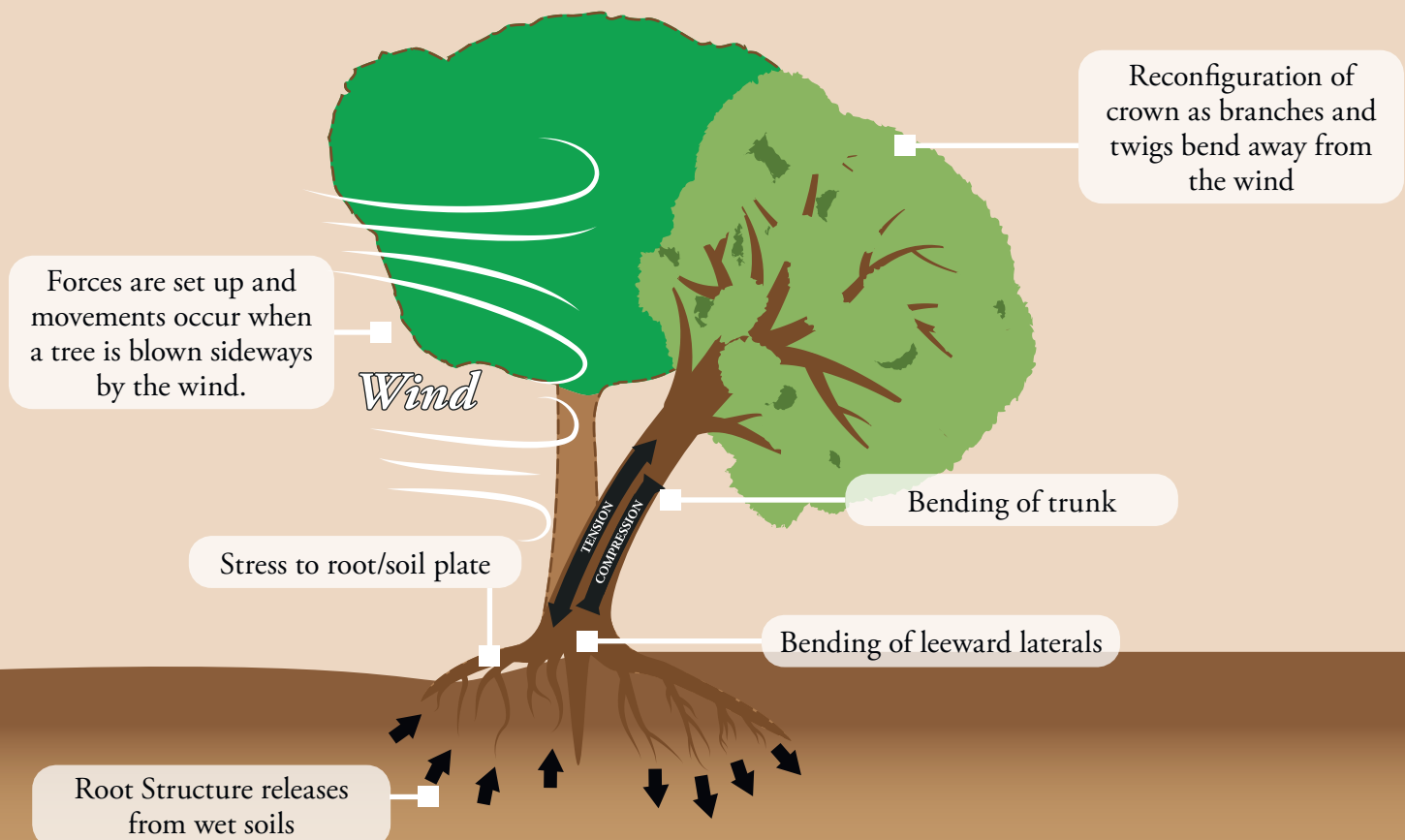
Why Trees Uproot?

Trees are dynamic structures which grow with the ability to flex and bend even under great force. That's why, through the ages and in most cultures, large trees have been a sign of strength and longevity.

However, despite most trees having a solid and secure root system, any tree's root system is susceptible to weakening by excessive rainfall and root slippage. The water-holding capacity of soil has its limits. When soil structure loosens, it releases its grip or adhesion between the root structure and soil particles. Excessive rainfall loosens soil and predisposes a tree to uproot.

Depending on the species of the tree and the size of the leaf canopy, it can act as a sail, catching the gusts of wind. The taller the tree the more susceptible they are to wind-through. Tree height adds leverage which increases the pressure on the root system.

Trees can also have other compromised root system issues, such as root rot, cavities, girdling roots, and co-dominant trunks with split root systems. Tree failure is usually a combination of pre-existing conditions and environmental influences. As arborists, we try to mitigate what we can through observation, diagnosis, pruning, and at times preemptive removal.





Ice Damage Resistant Trees

There are a number of structural characteristics which increase a tree's susceptibility to ice damage; "included" bark, decaying or dead branches, increased surface area of lateral (side) branches, broad crowns, and imbalanced crowns.

Included bark results from in-grown bark in branch junctions. This weak connection enhances a tree's susceptibility to breakage under ice-loading conditions. Decaying or dead branches are already weakened and have a high probability of breaking when loaded with ice. Large evergreen trees, in particular Eastern Pine trees, will cascade limbs during ice or heavy snow events. Mature trees have an increased surface area to hold ice which will accumulate on lateral branches; the ice load results in greater



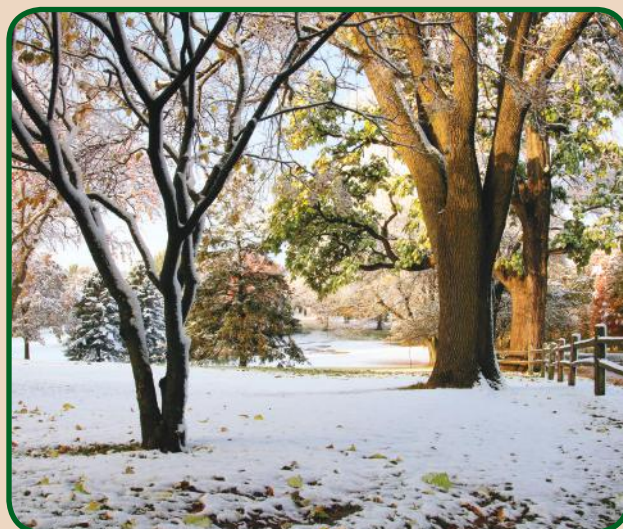
branch failure.

Many deciduous tree species, when grown in open areas of your landscape, form wide spreading canopies (decurent branching), increasing their vulnerability to ice storms. Examples include: Siberian Elm, American Elm, Hackberry, Ash, and Honey Locust. Trees with imbalanced crowns and leaning trunks are also more susceptible to ice damage.

Ice Storm Damage Management and Prevention

Trees pruned regularly from a young age should be more resistant to ice storms as a result of the removal of structurally weak branches, decreased surface area of lateral branches and decreased wind resistance. Professional arborists can install cables and braces to increase a tree's tolerance to ice accumulation in situations where individual trees must be stabilized to prevent their failure.

After storm damage has occurred, hazardous trees and branches require immediate removal to ensure safety and prevent additional property damage. Trees that can be saved should have broken branches properly pruned to the branch collar. Loose bark should be cut back only to where it is firmly attached to the tree. A split fork can be repaired through cabling and bracing.



Ice Damage Susceptibility Of Tree Species Commonly Planted Along The Main Line:

Susceptible		Intermediate Resistance		Resistant	
American Elm	Ash	Bur Oak	Sycamore	Sweetgum	White Oak
American Linden	Honey Locust	Eastern White Pine	Tulip	Arborvitae	Kentucky Coffee
Black Cherry	Pin Oak	Northern Red Oak	White Ash	Black Walnut	Littleleaf Linden
Bradford Pear	Siberian Elm	Red Maple		Catalpa	Norway Maple
Common Hackberry	Silver Maple	Sugar Maple		Hemlock	Silver Linden
				Ginkgo	Swamp White Oak



Plant Health Care

Preserve And Protect Your Landscape Investment With Shreiner Plant Health Care.

What a year it has been! The warm, wet spring weather created ideal conditions for leaf diseases which were prevalent in the landscape. Leaf diseases can lead to unsightly foliage, early defoliation, and even branch dieback in extreme conditions. The mid-summer heatwave exacerbated leaf diseases and many trees dropped their leaves early as a protective measure due to stress. Most notably, cherry trees of every variety defoliated very early.

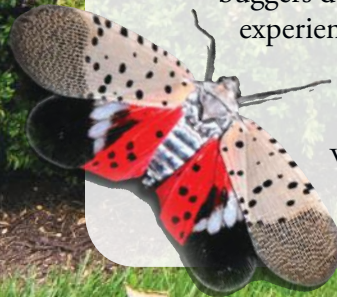
However, judging by their bud set for next year, this early unattractive leaf drop should not pose as a major health risk.

As the weather cools and ground temperatures drop, tree roots continue to grow, much like grass roots. Soil conditioning with fall fertilization will benefit your ornamental and mature trees next spring by replacing soil nutrients needed for tree growth.

Emerald Ash Borer insects are still very prevalent in our area. You will start to see more and more unprotected ash trees die. Ash trees are a species that typically inhabit wet areas such as bottom land wooded spaces or along waterways. They are increasingly becoming safety concerns around our homes and in the community. Winter time is an ideal time to access these areas and remove these hazardous trees.



The Spotted Lanternfly has continued its movement throughout the Main Line. Although it is not fatal to the vast majority of plants, heavy feeding from this pest can weaken trees, and is certainly a nuisance. Fortunately, there are effective treatment options to help suppress Spotted Lanternfly. Our techs were chasing these pesky buggers down all season long as new clients were experiencing their presence.



Like many of you, we are looking forward to Spring 2021!

We appreciate the opportunity to care for your trees and shrubs! Thank you!



Golf Course Trees

Tree Maintenance for Golf Course Playability and Safety

Mike Kachurak



As time passes, golf course properties age and so do their trees. Trees that were planted 50-100 years ago for architectural or aesthetic function, are now in many cases improperly located or in decline. The northeast region of the country contains many of the oldest and well-treed golf courses. Maintaining healthy turf and playing conditions has always been a challenge at these clubs. Progressive superintendents and their members understand the benefits of working with a knowledgeable, certified arborist.

A comprehensive approach is always best. This should include the superintendent, the club decision-makers and the course architect. Using a combination of archived architectural resources, developing a strategic tree management plan to include selective tree removal and preservation can help restore the vistas and architectural flow of the golf course. Trees that were planted decades ago are now too close to greens, tees, or fairways causing serious problems to the turf. Mature trees cause shade issues

and create competition for water and nutrients. Turf will not thrive under these conditions. Declining trees on a golf course property create a hazardous environment for people frequenting the course, the parking area, the club house, the practice area, etc. Pruning hazardous limbs or complete removal of declining trees are necessary steps to keep the property safe.

It is imperative to evaluate the short and long term agronomic and financial impact of your tree canopy. Today, with solutions through science and experience, we utilize data to make decisions; tree mapping, canopy sunlight studies and other technology assist in identifying the necessary pruning or removal of the canopy to optimize the playability. Please feel free to contact me and let's get the ball rolling!

Perry Greto

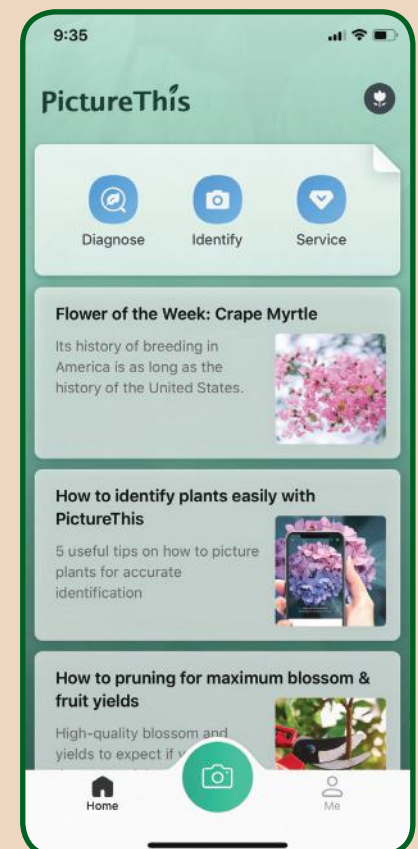


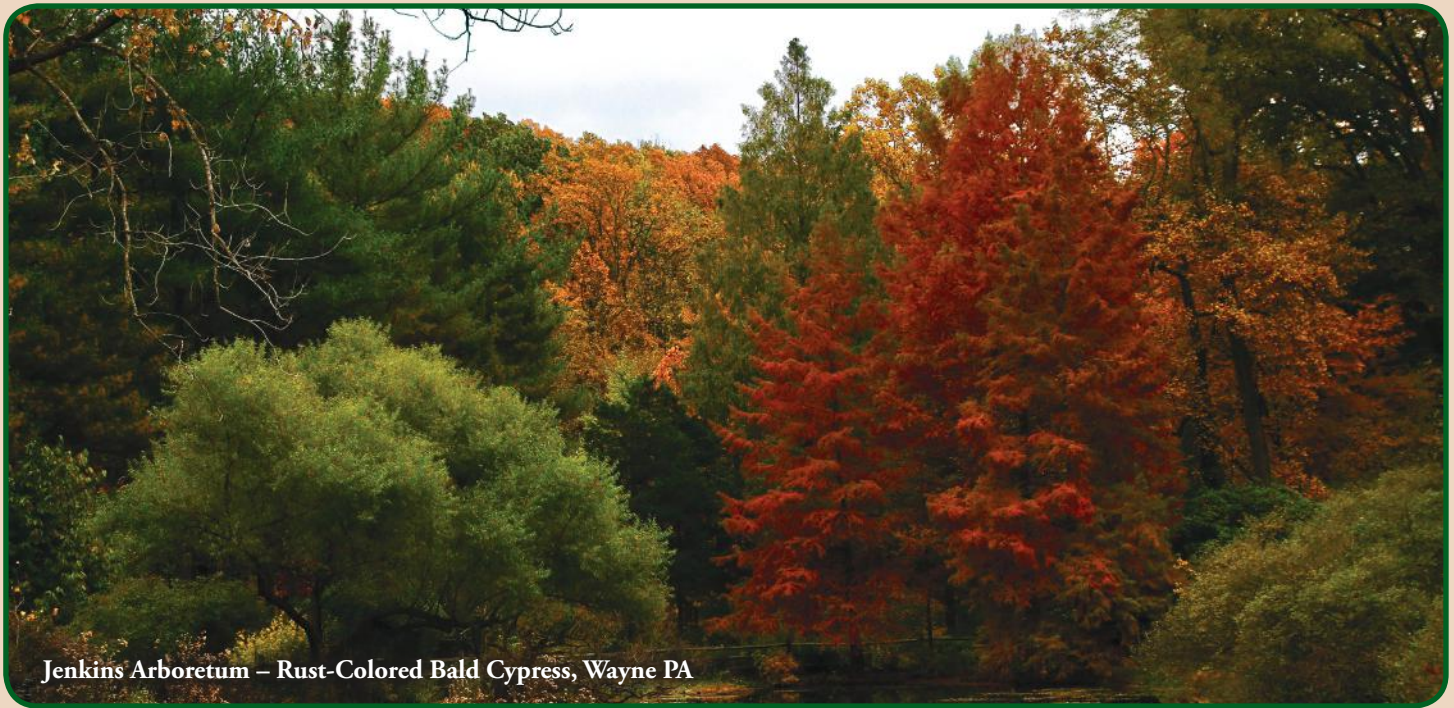
Tech Tree - Plant Identifier

Picture This is the latest phone app I have been using to educate myself and clients. Surprisingly accurate and quick, with just a simple snap of a picture, it can easily identify most plants. I've tried several different plant I.D. apps and this one was by far the easiest and most reliable. So even if you are not a plant enthusiast, learning the trees and plants around your home can be exciting and interesting. You can download this app on Android or iPhone. Enjoy!

App Key Features:

- Identify plants, flowers, and trees instantly
- Diagnose plant problems automatically and get treatment suggestions
- Use plant guides to help you choose and grow beautiful, healthy plants
- Take better photographs with the easy-to-use interface





Jenkins Arboretum – Rust-Colored Bald Cypress, Wayne PA

Why Are Trees So Cool?

Experts say trees should be considered urban infrastructure and are every bit as important and useful as sewage, drinking water and transportation systems. They are an important tool for cities to reduce urban heat island effects. Here are a few ways trees benefit our urban environments:

By shading buildings, they reduce the energy demand, which reduces waste heat from air conditioners.

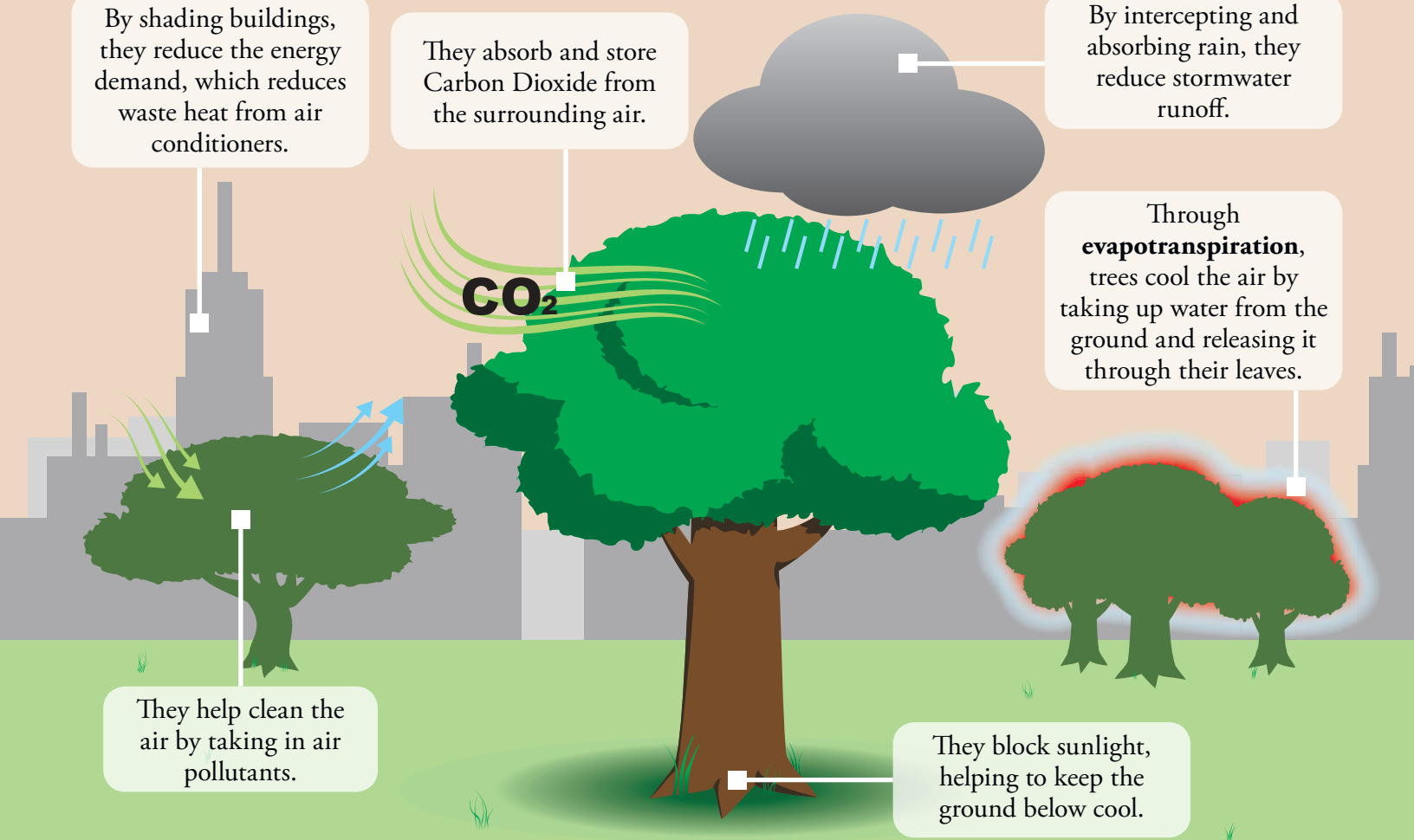
They absorb and store Carbon Dioxide from the surrounding air.

By intercepting and absorbing rain, they reduce stormwater runoff.

Through **evapotranspiration**, trees cool the air by taking up water from the ground and releasing it through their leaves.

They help clean the air by taking in air pollutants.

They block sunlight, helping to keep the ground below cool.



The Benefits of Cabling and Bracing Your Trees



Arborist Crew Leader Kyle Hawk trimming the excess steel rod from a through-bolt

Not every tree grows perfectly straight with a single trunk. Most often, they can have multiple trunks and certain limbs with poor branch unions. Architecturally, these potential structural defects can be catastrophic as they are more prone to storm damage. Failure of a large branch or main trunk can lead to the deterioration of a tree's health and structural integrity. Cables and bracing rods may be recommended by our arborists to improve the structural integrity of your trees.

Installing cables and bracing rods, along with pruning to reduce weight, can reduce the probability of structural failure. Properly installed cables help transfer disproportionate weight and bracing rods can provide support to failing branch attachments.

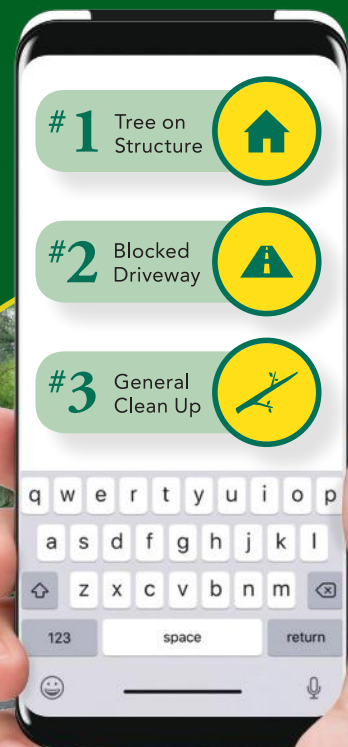
24/7 Emergency Storm Damage Text Service

Simply text our receptionist your name, address, along with any pictures that you can safely take. Identify your emergency using the simple number code that corresponds to your situation. This allows us to prioritize damage based on severity and handle the damage in a quick and efficient manner.



Text

(610) 265-6004



We are Mother Nature's First Responders™