



*Did you know...*

*One mature tree will absorb almost 12 kg of carbon dioxide annually, roughly equal to the pollution created by driving a car 17,600 km.*

**A Newsletter of Integrated Forestree Services Inc.**

## Commonly Asked Questions

### *When is the best time of the year to prune trees?*

This is probably the question most frequently asked by our clients. The answer often depends upon the species of tree we are pruning, its condition and the desired results. It is well known, for example, that fruit trees should be pruned in the winter when they are dormant. While winter pruning of fruit trees is done primarily to increase fruit production in the following season, many other species of deciduous trees can also be pruned during the winter.

In the past it was advised to not prune trees that were known to "bleed" profusely. These species — maple, birch, elm and locust — were known to lose up to 7 percent of their sap from pruning cuts in the spring. Research from the maple syrup industry however, has shown that healthy sugar maples which are tapped annually for many years are not harmed by the continual loss of sap.

Although winter pruning is possible and even advised for certain

species, there are a number of precautions to ensure no damage is done. First, each tree should be assessed for signs of stress. If the tree is infected with a disease for instance, the creation of pruning cuts (wounds) could lead to the spread of the infection. Also, it is critical to ensure that each tree is fully dormant at the time of pruning. If pruning is started too early, prior to the tree fully hardening off for the winter, the pruning cuts will stimulate cellular activity. Not only will this delay hardening off even further but the cellular activity will also create a strong attraction for the movement of growth hormones toward the pruning wounds. Tissue that has been stimulated to create callus (wound wood) is very susceptible to injury by subsequent cold temperatures. For this reason we generally try to delay our winter pruning until early- to mid-February. Of course, the numerous thaws we have had this winter has forced us to stop pruning until several days of cold weather allowed the trees to regain any hardiness they may have lost.

Care must also be taken in deciding when to best prune conifer-

ous trees. One of the ironies of trees is that the best time to prune deciduous trees may be the worst for evergreens. When winter temperatures go below  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the hardiness of tissue near pruning cuts is particularly reduced in coniferous trees. This is true even though growth of callus has not been stimulated by growth hormones. Consequently, to avoid cold injury to conifers pruning should be delayed until just before growth begins in the spring. This last point addresses the most contentious issue in urban tree care: when to best

### ***Our new coordinates:***

*Please note that as of this January we have changed our mailing and internet addresses to:*

***Mailing address:*** P.O. Box 13593, Ottawa, ON K2K 1X6

***Website:*** [www.forestree.ca](http://www.forestree.ca)

***Email:*** [info@forestree.ca](mailto:info@forestree.ca)

*Our phone and fax numbers have remained unchanged.*

### **TREEVIA**

**Which of the following medicines was originally derived from the bark of willow trees?: a) Aspirin; b) Cough syrup; or c) Vitamins?**

Aspirin was originally derived from willow bark. Today it is made synthetically.



**Integrated Forestree Services Inc.** is a full-

service forestry firm offering urban forestry and forest management consulting and contracting. We are a fully Canadian-owned and operated company. On staff we have a Professional Urban Forester, Certified Arborists and forestry technicians. We are the only urban forestry firm in Ottawa to offer the services of a Professional Urban Forester and to guarantee that all of our working arborists are graduates of college-level arboricultural programs.

## *Integrated Forestree Services Inc. : About Us*

Just as with trees in forests, those in our urban forest provide many benefits including producing the oxygen we breath. However, because of their proximity to buildings, roads, sidewalks and the property of others, trees in urban areas need to be maintained to ensure that they don't cause conflicts, or worse, catastrophes. This is where **Integrated Forestree Services Inc.** can help. We provide complete tree services including:

### Tree Maintenance Programs

- ✓ Tree trimming, pruning and shaping
- ✓ Tree and stump removal
- ✓ Tree planting
- ✓ Cabling, bracing and propping (including storm damage repairs)
- ✓ Deep-root fertilizing
- ✓ Installation of root barriers
- ✓ Root pruning
- ✓ Disease and insect control
- ✓ Systemic injections

### Corporate & Residential Inventory Management

- ✓ Tree evaluation and hazard assessment
- ✓ Tree inventories and maintenance scheduling
- ✓ Tree preservation during construction
- ✓ Soil testing (for macro- and micro-nutrients, pH, texture, etc.)
- ✓ Disease and insect diagnostic services
- ✓ Tree appraisals
- ✓ Property assessments and consultations

### To Contact Us:

Phone:(613) 599-9088

Toll-free:1-800-341-1366

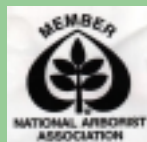
Fax:(613) 599-4103

Email:info@forestree.ca

And remember to check out our new website at:

*www.forestree.ca*

We are members of:



## *New for 2002...*

Since the demand for tree inventories was greater than ever in 2001, we decided to start providing in-house mapping services starting in 2002. The purchase of AutoCad software and a Global Positioning Unit (GPS) has allowed us to provide our govern-

ment, corporate and condominium clients with professional-quality map products and the means to easily and accurately manage each tree over its' lifecycle.

Drought conditions in 2001 required us to increase the capacity of our hydraulic deep-root fertilizer which

now can carry up to 1000 L of dissolved fertilizer. Also, the addition of another brush chipper (a Vermeer BC935) will give us greater flexibility to respond to our client's needs and allow for quicker and more efficient job completion.