



Did you know...

The main ingredient of Tamiflu, the bird flu antiviral, can be extracted from the needles of evergreen trees?

A Newsletter of Integrated Forestree Services Inc.

Commonly Asked Questions

Why do there seem to be so many ladybugs in my garden (and home!) the last few years? What impact do they have on trees, if any?

There are several species of ladybugs present in Ontario. In fact, throughout Canada there are more than 17 species ladybugs (or, more properly termed, ladybird beetles). The vast majority of beetles we've seen the past few autumns are the Asian ladybird beetle. This species was introduced to North America from Japan. The Asian species comes in many shades of orange and has a variable number of spots or no spots at all on its wing cover. They are also known to bite, nip and gnaw on humans, however they rarely break the skin.

While all species of ladybird beetles find cool, dry places to spend the winter months, the Asian variety has real preference for hibernating in buildings and homes where it prefers a warm environment in

which to spend the winter months. The native beetles overwinter in a variety of habitats in the garden. The best way to rid indoor areas (especially window sills) of the masses of beetles that can accumulate is to vacuum them up. Flushing them down the toilet or releasing them outside are two methods to dispose of them. It is important to note that ladybird beetles are not a threat to structures, plants or food-stuffs in the house.

All ladybird beetles are predators of other insects. In particular, they enjoy feeding on aphids. An increase in the aphid population over the last few seasons explains why we've seen such a recent rise in beetle population. As long as there's lots of aphids, there will be lots of beetles around to eat them.

This last point is where the impact of ladybird beetles is felt by trees. Since both the larvae and adult beetles feed on insects injurious to trees (aside from aphids, scale insects and mites are also preyed upon), the recent spike in their population helps

keep these sucking insects under control.

Although most of us have a soft spot for this species of insect, the annual invasions into our homes has taken a toll on this relationship. Although indoors they can become a nuisance, outdoors their control is rarely necessary. If populations do threaten particular plants a water-and-dish-soap solution can be used successfully. Some care should be taken when applying this solution as too strong a solution could damage the foliage of certain plants.

Aside from their role as a natural control for certain insects, ladybird beetles also benefit animals as they are a food source for many smaller animals, including birds.



TREEVIA

Approximately how many liters of water can a single large tree transpire into the atmosphere in one day: a) 10; b) 100; c) 500; or 1000?

c) 500 (source: Tree Canada Foundation)



Integrated Forestree Services Inc. is a

full-service urban forestry firm offering consulting and contracting services in urban forestry.

Integrated Forestree Services Inc. is fully Canadian owned and operated.

Integrated Forestree Services Inc. is the only tree care firm in Ottawa with access to the services of a degreed (B.Sc.F.) Registered Professional Forester. Also, we guarantee that all of our working arborists are graduates of college-level arboricultural and/or forestry programs.

Integrated Forestree Services Inc. : About Us

Trees on residential and commercial properties, together with those on public lands, make up the City of Ottawa's urban forest. Just as with trees in forests, those in our urban forest provide many benefits including producing the oxygen we breathe. However, because of their proximity to buildings, roads, sidewalks and the property of others, trees in urban areas need to be carefully 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 maintenance

and management services for both residential and commercial properties.

Tree Maintenance Programs

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

Tree Inventory Management Services

- ✓ Tree evaluation and hazard assessment (including use of a Resistograph Decay Detector)
- ✓ Tree surveys for liability purposes
- ✓ Assessment of trees-capes
- ✓ Soil testing (for nutrients, pH, texture, etc.)
- ✓ Disease and insect diagnostic services
- ✓ Tree valuation – International Society of Arboriculture Standards
- ✓ Species-to-site compatibility

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We are members of the following associations:



New for 2006...

The overwhelming response to our contracting and consulting services over the years has required us to purchase a client relational database program. Through this database we can keep track of all our clients' addresses, the work we've done for them over the years, the layout of their properties and even

the location of the trees on their properties! The ability to quickly access each client's work history greatly aids in the management of their trees and helps provide the level of service that our clients have come to expect from us.

We're looking forward to adding you to our list of clients in 2006!