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Don't Forget Your Friends—The Trees



Time is never wasted listening to the trees. If to Heaven as grandly we arose as these, holding toward each other half their kindly grace, happy, we were wrothier of our human place.—Lacy Larcomb.

"Bending down to meet you on the hillside path, beech and oak and maple, each its welcome bath," the poem continues and isn't it true? Don't the trees around your home seem to assume personalities? Haven't you ever thought of them as friends who stand by you, rain or shine? Like friends, too, they are always doing their best to protect you. In winter, they stand as a barrier against the wind, shielding your home from its onslaught. In summer they wave their plumed branches like great green fans over your home, cooling it with every passing breeze, and sheltering it from the rays of a seemingly merciless sun. And, as friends, aren't they worthy of your consideration? Perhaps you have gone on for years, taking them for granted, neglecting them, and not realizing that you are the loser.

If your trees could talk to you, they would probably confide that they dread this season of the year. "It is so dry," they would tell you, "and there is so little nourishment in the soil. Won't you please give us more water, and a more satisfying diet during these difficult summer months?" How could you resist such an appeal, if trees had tongues? If it is, they make the same appeal to you mutely. Perhaps you do not even observe that in the middle of summer your faithful tree friends begin to shed their leaves. Or that long before the time, the uppermost branches look stark and bare instead of soft with summer foliage.

This is nature's way of showing you that you are neglecting your friends. You should feel conscience-stricken when you observe these symptoms of decay in trees. More than that, you should hasten to do something about it.

Summer is the time when trees require the most water and nourishment. It is the dry season, and trees often die as the result of long periods of drought. If you notice falling leaves in summer, you can give your trees first aid by supplying plenty of water and plenty of fertilizer in an excellent remedy, as it strengthens the tree by enriching the soil.

One of the most modern methods of using fertilizer is to bore holes in the lawn beneath the crown of the trees. Make the holes from 8 to 10 inches deep, and fill them about half full of some good commercial fertilizer. Then water all the ground covered as thoroughly as possible. Even if water is used alone in such holes, it will greatly improve the condition of the trees. In certain locations where there is a heavy clay soil that packs hard in

dry weather, loosen it by constant cultivation.

One of the most modern methods of loosening the soil is by compressed air. Consult your family tree doctor, as he can advise you, but many of the best tree repair concerns are now equipped to do this for a reasonable consideration.

Holes in the lawn are made with an auger, and a strong current of air blown in them from a compressor. If the holes contain fertilizer, it will be distributed through the soil by the force of the air.

If you are trying to encourage the growth of young trees at home, remember that they, like all young things, need care and attention. Begin cultivating the soil around the roots now, and continue until September. Using the extent of the spread of the branches as a radius, work over all the soil in this small area.

Don't forget the fertilizer. If it is placed on the surface and washed well into the soil, with the addition of a good drenching about once a week, the tree should give you a hearty year care with sturdy growth.

Another bad sign in summer is the appearance of dead branches. As soon as you notice any, remove them at once. Then, if after watering, fertilizing and cultivating, the trees still fail to respond, try heading back the live branches to give the trees a new start.

Be sure that the work of removing the branches is carefully done with every precaution taken for the preservation of the tree. Keep your trees in a good state of health, and they will be able to resist insect pests. It is usually an indication of low vitality when a tree is subject to severe insect attacks.

Give your trees care if you value them as staunch, unchanging friends, to live with you and after you as memorials of your loyalty.



Man Hurt As Car Hits Pole, Upsets

W. F. Brinkman, Pontiac, was cut and bruised and suffered a severe injury to one of his fingers when an automobile in which he was riding crashed into a pole and overturned on Woodward avenue near Lone Pine road early last Thursday morning.

Thomas Halloran, also of Pontiac, the driver, was unhurt. He fell asleep and allowed the machine to run off the road, he told Officer Stanley Kevern of the Bloomfield Hills police who investigated.

Brinkman was also asleep when the accident occurred. He was taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac.

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