
❖ Timely Tree Tips ❖

Fall/Winter 2000 jonestreeandlawn.com 303-431-8132

Interest in caring for trees grows each year...

Another year is coming to an end and I wonder how we did it. Each year is better than the last and a bit tougher to get through. The need for quality tree care is on the rise and that places a demand for our service. That's a good thing. The problem we encounter is meeting the demand with finding more qualified people to perform the work. It gets frustrating at times. The only consolation is that other businesses are experiencing the same problems. Not much of a consolation though.

My goal is to provide a quality service to you. The people I have working here I believe are the best in the business. Unfortunately they can only do so much work in a given day. Demand exceeds supply and that causes a delay in response time. This mostly relates to tree trimming work. We always manage to stay on top of the bugs.

One way to avoid delay in service for trimming or removals is to have us do the work in the winter season. Most tree and shrub work is best done while plants are dormant. Another is advanced planning. If you have a project that needs to be done by a certain time call me a month or so in advance. Chances are good we can meet your time frame.

Over the next couple months we will be sending out our tree, shrub and lawn care proposals for next season. The sooner we get you approval for work to be done the better we can schedule and take care of your yard care needs.

Thank you for allowing us to be of ser-



Pigeon tremex a borer insect that resembles a huge wasp. This insect is about 1 1/2" long and has an ovipositor of about 8" in length. She lays her eggs deep in dead and diseased and injured wood. This cottonwood was hit by lightning. Even though a tree damaged like this may still be alive the stage is set for its demise. It is a sad day to have to remove some trees. However it can be even sadder to ignore the problem and have it fall down and perhaps injure or kill someone.

Season's
Greetings from all
of us at
Jones Tree &
Lawn

What's the yellow flag for anyway?

Colorado Department of Agriculture requires that companies applying pesticides for hire must post notice at the property where the application was made. Which is why we leave the yellow flags in the lawn after we have made a treatment. Recently, I was talking with one of our clients and she said she felt guilty having us spray her trees and shrubs because of the flag we left behind. She also asked that if we ever switched to "soap or organic products" to sign her up. Organic and soap products are all well and good but if they are labeled to kill bugs then we still have to put the flag in the yard.

The law doesn't discriminate when it comes to "pesticides". The word pesticide is a large catch all phrase, if you will, that includes many things. Insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides etc., etc. are all "pesticides". Some products are safer to be around than are others. Where ever possible we use the most environmentally sound products available for two reasons: 1) we have to apply them almost everyday, and 2) you have to live where we apply them. Our first concern is for safety. Safety of you and your family and the safety of our employees. Most of the insect control products we use are a derivative of naturally occurring insecticides like pyrethrums. They work on contact and break down quickly in the environment. We have also been using soil injection treatments and trunk injections for bug problems. We are constantly looking for and trying new products to take care of your trees with and be safe at the same time. Believe me if insecticidal soap worked at all we would be using it. P.S. save those flags for marking sprinkler heads or give them back to us! Thanks..

Bugs and Diseases of the year 2000

The new millennium brought with it new and familiar pests problems. Here are some of the highlights of the season:

Tussock moth caterpillar of spruce and fir is on the rise. This was a serious pest back in the late 70's and early 80's. For several years they were almost gone and now we are seeing more damage.

Powdery mildew fungus. The last 2 years of mild winters set the stage for this disease especially on some crab and apple varieties. Without sustained cold of around 10 degrees the fungus was not injured and took off as soon as spring arrived. Fungicide sprays in the spring help control the disease.

Mite damage to turf grass was again a problem. Damage can be minimized with winter watering! Turf with south and west exposures, on slopes and next to evergreen trees need to be watered regularly during dry winters. Severely damaged turf may have to be replaced.

Ash saw fly once again makes the list. Mild temperatures in early spring let this bug do its thing. The volume of calls this year was down a bit from the previous 2 years which was a good thing.

Boxelder bugs made a huge debut toward the end of summer. We can only spray the tree and shrubs to kill these pests. The spray does work on what we spray. However, we cannot spray houses and fences and everywhere else these bugs hang out on. The bugs are still seen and people get a bit grumpy saying the spray didn't work. Well it does work where we can spray. If these guys really bug you take away the source of the problem. Remove the boxelder tree and plant something different. If that is not an option one must learn to live with the critters that inhabit the tree.

Elm leaf miner was on almost every elm tree this spring. Many clients thought the miner damage was elm leaf beetle damage. These bugs get started as soon as the leaves pop out.

They eat the leaf tissue between the upper and lower epidermise. Like eating the peanut butter and leaving the bread. The only effective control we have found is either a systemic soil or trunk injection with Merit. Because the insects start so early the product has to be applied almost a year in advance. Elm trees injected in 1999 had little or no damage in 2000. Merit also works good on elm leaf beetle, aphids and scale insects. It's a bit pricey but we don't have to spray and it works all season long.

Locust trees had a slow start this year. A dry winter and warm spring caused a lot of die back and thin canopies. The trees flowered heavily this spring and didn't leaf out like normal. To care for locust trees: Keep pests off, spray in spring for leaf hoppers and plant bugs and in the summer for mites: Prune out dead limbs: Fertilize and don't forget-
winter water

Watch for more Timely Tree

Looking for a gift that lasts all year? Try a gift certificate for a lawn care fertilizing program for a friend or loved one.

Jones Tree & Lawn, Inc.
5497 Harlan St.
Arvada CO 80002

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Arvada Colorado
Permit No. 0287

