

Should your Oaks need pruning in the upcoming year, call to get in this winter's schedule.

Remember, we can only prune Oaks in the winter to avoid spreading Oak Wilt!

Despite popular beliefs, our dedicated team works through the winter months braving the elements to continue removing and trimming trees. When considering your landscape, it is the best time for us to perform maintenance on trees. Many small plants are dormant and while the ground is frozen, we can minimize impact to the lawn.

Sign-up Now for Winter Service!



**INTEGRITY
TREE
SERVICES**

5926 Fillmore Street • Allendale, MI 49401

Fall 2010
SEASONAL REPORT

"YOUR CARES are OUR CARES!"™

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HOME BUILDERS



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SEASONAL REPORT

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When Should and Shouldn't I Prune?

This is a great question we are asked very often. Oaks and some other species are at high risk during the warm season months to infectious diseases if wounds are created through pruning or storm damage. Picnic Beetles are a carrier for disease because they feed on the sap from fresh wounds caused by trimming and storm damage. Their activity moves the fungus to healthy, recently pruned oaks from diseased trees/wood. Trees that become infected in the spring/summer with the Oak Wilt fungus will more than likely be dead by the fall.

How To Manage Oak Wilt

There are several ways to prevent Oak Wilt and to minimize the effects of Oak Wilt once detected. Clearly, the first is to prevent the fungus from becoming established in your trees.

- 1) **Pruning:** Do not prune during the warm season; trimming is the main cause of Oak Wilt infections in Michigan today! If they need to be pruned, wait until the dormant period (November-February) and stop pruning in April. If storm damage happens during the warm months, prune the branch 1-2 feet below any injury and seal the wound with pruning paint. Repair of storm damage needs to be taken care of as soon as possible.
- 2) **Removal:** Trees that are infected should be removed promptly. Once the tree is infected, you have little chance of saving it. When removed, please take into account the disposal. Wood may be used for firewood after it is covered and sealed over the summer months to keep beetles from feeding on it and moving the disease.
- 3) **Trenching:** If there are other trees in the area you must trench as soon as possible to separate root zones from healthy and diseased trees. As the diseased tree dries out the moisture and disease are pulled to the healthy tree through grafts in the roots. This is why you will see adjacent trees die very quickly after one has become infected.
- 4) **Injection:** Micro- and Macro-injections of fungicides are protective measures against infection.

continued on page 2

-Mission of Integrity-

To be the leading tree service providing expert guidance and superior quality workmanship that demonstrates the highest integrity in exceeding customer expectations.

(616) 895-9600

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Be on the Lookout for Oak Wilt!

Research has shown that once the tree is infected with the Oak Wilt fungus, there is little that can be done to save the tree. If you or someone you know thinks that their trees may be infected with the Oak Wilt fungus or have any questions regarding the disease, please contact out Tree & Shrub Care Manager, Pat Morren, and he will be glad to stop out and inspect your trees.



Armand Lawrence giving an Oak Wilt infusion treatment



Picture of a tree with Oak Wilt



Shane Herrema root trenching around an oak tree.

Oak Wilt, is a lethal fungal disease of Oak (Quercus). This disease is most serious on members of the Red Oak family, including Red Oak, Scarlet Oak, Black Oak, Pine Oak, etc... Members of the White Oak family are generally not as susceptible: White Oak, Swamp Oak, Burr Oak, etc. This disease is potentially as serious as Dutch Elm Disease on American Elm. Both diseases are caused by fungi that shut down the vascular tissue. Both are transmitted by Bark/Picnic Beetles and through root grafts and both kill their host very quickly.

FALL Calendar Chart

Integrity Tree Services provides many additional services not listed in the chart below. If your need is not listed, please contact us.

COMMON SERVICES	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Treat sycamore anthracnose					
Fall fertilization (standard)					
Prune spring flowering shrubs					
Prune summer flowering shrubs					
Root zone aerification in compacted soils					
Zimmerman moth spray					
Treat spruce trees that had galls last year					
Honey locust leaf hopper control					
Best time to prune oak and elm trees					
Transplant trees and shrubs					
Trunk injections, spring insects/fungal control					

*All dates are approximate and may vary slightly from year-to-year depending on scientific indicators, weather conditions, and treatments. ©2010 Integrity Tree Services. All rights reserved.

The Disease Cycle

After being infected by this disease, a mature Red Oak usually dies within several months. When checking to see if your trees are infected, look for the following:

- leaf margin browning progressing inward and from the leaf tips to the leaf bases,
- leaves on branches may appear to be wilting,
- some leaves may defoliate green or brown while others remain attached,
- vascular discoloration in the sap may or may not be present (dark streaking).

Call our arborists if you are at all suspicious as this is a very serious disease.

These symptoms may be descriptive with other problems the tree could have and hence misdiagnosis is not uncommon. Fungal mats, often called pressure pads, may develop beneath the bark by the following spring. These fungal mats serve as a source of infection for transmission by the Picnic Beetles to healthy trees, thus completing the cycle.

Note: We currently have a large outbreak in the Grand Haven area as well as smaller outbreaks around Grand Rapids! You can help by teaching your neighbors not to trim Oaks in the warm months and call quickly if you see an outbreak starting.



INTEGRITY TREE SERVICES

TREE & SHRUB CARE DIVISION
Providing Scientific Diagnosis & Treatment Services™

Existing Customer Coupon

To show appreciation to our loyal customers, the Tree & Shrub Care Division of Integrity Tree Services is offering a

FREE

on-site property evaluation!
Our on-site property evaluation includes:

- a walk-through of your property,
- an evaluation report,
- recommendations for your property,
- time to answer any questions you may have.

Name _____ Date _____ Estimate # _____

*For residential customers only. Limit one coupon per household, per residence. This coupon cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounted offer.

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