

McCullough's TREE SERVICE, INC.



Your Neighborhood Friend For Tree Care

“TREE” mendous TIMES

Our Exceptional Service and Knowledgeable Staff is What Keeps us a “Cut” Above!

Preparing your trees for

SPRING

Proper tree care can be a life and death issue for certain trees, so it's important to know something about your trees' needs.

Pruning can cause stress to a tree in several ways. Two of the primary ways are removing too much of the foliage or by pruning incorrectly during hotter temperatures. Trees grow and produce leaves to manufacture sugars for fuel, and evaporate water through the process of transpiration.

Removing too many fuel producing leaves from a tree during the growing season could cause it stress. It is important to ensure that pruning performed during the growing season is performed with the proper care.

Heat is also a summer issue for trees. Heat is reflected off of such surfaces as walls, water, parking lots, sidewalks and driveways. The warmer months are an important time to provide water to the tree roots. Ensure that your trees have enough moisture stored in their leaves, branches, trunks, and roots to sustain them during the summer. This is when they are growing and expanding and transpiration is occurring. Otherwise, trees can be thrown into stress and their health could be compromised.

Call today for a complimentary consultation from McCullough's Tree Service certified arborists and fully trained professionals for a summer tree care evaluation.

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www.angieslist.com/review



HelpForTrees.com

Spring Brings Storms... **ARE YOU READY?**



Did you know most trees that fall during a storm could have been identified as hazardous if they had been properly evaluated beforehand?

The best way to protect the value of your home and your arboricultural assets from storm damage is through proper year-round tree care. This will help prevent many avoidable situations, protect your investment, and save you the cost and trouble of cleanup and repairs.

Although it's difficult to protect trees from extreme weather conditions, there are effective precautions you and your arborist can take to minimize the impact.

Proper pruning decreases the likelihood that a tree will be damaged by a storm. This is accomplished in two ways. The first is by removing dead, damaged and weakly attached limbs. These are the most likely candidates for failure in a storm. The second way is by reducing the mass of the canopy through a technique called thinning. Thinning a canopy of a tree allows the wind to pass through

it more easily (again, making it less likely to be damaged in a storm). Thinning also has the added effect of allowing the leaves to dry more quickly in the spring thereby reducing the risk of fungal leaf diseases.

Another method of protecting trees during storms is by the use of cabling. As it sounds, cabling is a technique where two or more limbs of a tree are joined together with a flexible line. The current state of the art is "COBRA cable"; A nylon rope like cordage that has the ability to stretch if the Arborist desires. This is an advantage as the limbs trying to be protected are less likely to be shock loaded.

Ask your McCullough's Tree Service Certified Arborist if any of these methods are appropriate for your property.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Well maintained trees and shrubs can increase property value by up to 14%
- Trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30%
- A healthy tree can have a value of up to \$10,000

Shakin' the Family Tree

McCullough's Tree Service is pleased to welcome Jim Murphy to our staff family. McCullough's Tree Service recently acquired Jim's business and that means the added benefit of a combined 72 years of experience and knowledge for our customers and potential customers. Jim is excited to have even more services and equipment at his fingertips. His vast knowledge and desire to implement new thoughts and ideas will only serve to enhance your customer service experience.

Rest assured, there will be no interruption in service to you during our time of transition. Including Jim, there are now five certified arborists to quickly respond and assist you with all your needs.

Join us in welcoming Jim to our ever expanding and perpetually growing business of making sure your family of trees are always branching and blooming!



**740.763.2535
Call me today!**

Our Promise To You

- We will provide all clients with an Expert Certified Arborist to evaluate their needs and provide a written estimate.
- We offer a 100% guarantee on every project.
- We make it easy, on time and on schedule.

Contact us Today!

Creepy, Crawling Critters and Common Diseases

Powdery Mildew

This disease makes your plants look as though they've been sprinkled with powder. Commonly found on crabapples, dogwoods, English oak, and catalpa trees, mildew affects older leaves first. When new shoots are diseased, you'll notice leaf curling, shoot stunting and twisting. Powdery Mildew can be controlled by leaf sprays. Your Arborist can provide solution options.

Leaf Spots

Fungal leaf spots appear regularly in Ohio. They often cause homeowners endless worry, but their damage is usually minimal and fungicides are rarely necessary. These diseases generally winter on fallen leaves and then re-infect trees in spring. Tar spot and frog-eye leaf spot are two of the most common.

Tar spot is very obvious as yellow-green circles on the leaves' upper surfaces during spring. By mid to late summer, the circles become tar-like spots. Tar spot is found on maples, especially Amur, Japanese, red, and silver varieties.

Frog-eye leaf spot affects most crabapples. Spots are roughly circular and develop into tannish spots with purple to red borders. Later in the season, the spots enlarge and the interior turns gray giving it a "frog eye" appearance. This is a minor disease and treatment is usually unnecessary.

Since fungal leaf spots spread from the fruiting bodies on fallen leaves, the best protection is to rake up the leaves and remove them from the area.

INSECTS:

Chewing Insects

These insects eat your tree's leaves. Spring and fall cankerworm, tent caterpillar, gypsy moth, leaf miners, and Japanese beetles are the usual suspects. Trees generally bounce back from an attack of these defoliators, but repeated infestations will weaken a tree and may eventually destroy it. McCullough's Tree Service has several

options available to control these pests. Your Arborist can help you decide which is best for your particular situation.

Boring Insects

Boring insects tunnel into the stem, roots, or twigs of a tree. Some lay eggs and the offspring burrow more deeply into the wood blocking off the tree's water-conducting tissues. If the infestation is serious, the upper leaves will be starved of nutrients and moisture and your tree could die. Be on the lookout for entry/exit holes in tree bark, small mounds of sawdust at the tree or branch base, and branch wilting and dying. Boring culprits are the Emerald Ash Borer, bronze birch borer, dogwood borer, two-lined chestnut borer, elm bark beetle, and asian longhorn beetle. Systemic insecticides work best to control boring insects. These are applied either to the soil or injected into the trunk.

Sucking Insect

Sucking insects do their damage by sucking the liquid from leaves and twigs. One type of sucking insect called scales lives on the outside of a branch and forms a hard protective outer coating while feeding on the plant juices. Telltale signs of these pests are scaly formations on branches, leaf dieback and sticky, sweet excretions. These excretions often turn black when colonized by sooty mold fungus. Other sucking insects include, aphids, leafhoppers, spider mites, and thrips. McCullough's Tree Service has several options available to control these pests as well. Your Arborist can help you decide which is best for your tree's needs.

Not to worry, we are ready to inspect your trees. Give us a call, these critters and diseases don't stand a chance!

SPRINGTIME PREP

**Grab your sunscreen and a tall drink,
Let McCullough's do the work!**

- Let us prune
- Let us remove and prep
- Let us evaluate your tree care needs

Given the extreme temperatures this winter, the coming spring will be particularly difficult for trees and shrubs. Browning of leaves and needles, branch dieback, and root damage will be very common. Fertilization will encourage recovery from winter damage and help ensure trees have sufficient nutrients for new growth in spring.

The best indicator of whether fertilization is necessary is a test where a soil sample from beneath the tree is analyzed to see what it contains. When you know what is – and is not – in the soil, fertilizer can be adapted to deliver the precise nutrients needed for optimal growth of the plant.

As part of our ongoing commitment to the care of your landscape, McCullough's Tree Service would like to offer to conduct a soil test at your property to determine if fertilization can help your trees and shrubs. Please call us at the location nearest you.

Licking: 740.321.1080
Muskingum: 740.454.1789
Franklin: 614.799.8733

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Branching Out

The gift that a notorious gangster made to Union Memorial Hospital 72 years ago is still giving. The weeping cherry, known to all in the hospital community as the Capone tree, is showing its age but remains resplendent and fertile with its glorious spring blossoms, abundant seedlings and rich wood.

The tree donated by Al Capone lost a hefty limb during a major snow storm. The toppled branch left a gaping hole halfway up the trunk and raised concerns for the longstanding landmark on East 33rd Street. The hospital called in an arborist who found the tree “in general decline.”

Still, it continues to bloom each season into brilliant pink flowers. Its canopy spans about 42 feet across and its tallest portions nearly reach the fourth floor, one story below where Capone and his entourage occupied an entire level of the hospital.

Several “Caponettes,” as the hospital calls the tree’s offshoots, are flourishing on the hospital grounds and several other seedlings were sold to raise funds and mark the hospital’s 150th anniversary a few years ago. Even that fallen branch has come back to the hospital in the form of numerous beautifully carved pieces.

“It was not a huge piece of wood, but it was really beautiful,” said Nick Aloisio, an Abingdon, Va. wood carver who turned the branch into elegant bowls, boxes and wine bottle stoppers.

The food-safe bowls, finished with layers of beeswax to a satiny feel, show the wood’s intricate grain. The boxes, topped with knobs fashioned from sturdy African black wood, and decorative stoppers are among Aloisio’s most popular wares, he said. And, when visitors to his studio heard the origin, many wanted to buy a piece of the Capone tree. No one at the hospital is surprised at the fervor. The tree long ago reached celebrity stature — more for its intriguing history than its imposing presence.

- Mary Gail Hare, The Baltimore



Thoughts from the Tree House

Whether it is from disease or weather conditions, losing a tree affects us both emotionally and financially. Trees become an important part of our landscaping and our lives. Memories are made in the shade of a beautiful tree, perhaps there is a swing gently swaying in the breeze, or you watched with bated breath as your children climbed through the branches, if that tree is suddenly gone, it takes time to nurture and grow a replacement. Take the time this spring, give us a call and let us make sure everything is as it should be with your trees and landscaping. Time spent now, will be time and trees saved later. - Wess McCullough