

Let's Talk Trees

Ethics Loyalty Integrity Quality of Life



From Joe...what's new

I'm voting for trees!

As the November presidential election approaches, I just want to give a bipartisan shout out for TREES! Honestly, it is hard to find a person who truly dislikes them. Trees naturally bring people together to sit under them and enjoy the shade they offer. And we spend hours upon hours encouraging them to grow big and strong. What a great thing to focus our efforts on this fall.

Oh sure, there are leaves to rake, and yes, the Ponderosa Pines shed needles. But like I've told folks before, if it weren't for the Ponderosa Pines, Spokane/CDA would look just like Anytown, USA. The towering, stately Ponderosa pine trees are what make Spokane and Coeur d'Alene unique!

Winter Pruning Rates

As the beautiful weather of summer concedes to cooler nights and wetter weather, we all start thinking about winter and what's in store for us. At NPHC we look to larger pruning projects at many of the local golf courses due to better accessibility and

lower impact to the course. The same holds true for private residences, homeowner's associations and larger commercial properties. Fall and winter are great seasons for pruning.

Scheduling your larger pruning jobs during cooler months also means lower pricing as NPHC offers a winter discounted rate and even more favorable pricing for larger projects. If you are thinking about doing a large pruning project, and want some special pricing, contact me or Ben and we will schedule it between Thanksgiving and February 15th. ☺

In care of trees,

Joe Zabely



HOO

doesn't love
a great
deal?

Rates effective Thanksgiving - Feb 15th, 2013.

The Cool Crowd

Spokane Urban Forestry Tree Committee (UFTC) and Citizens Advisory (CAC) Committees

by Ben Kappen

These groups meet monthly and serve the City of Spokane's trees in a myriad of ways. The Spokane Urban Forestry Tree Committee (UFTC) was created to advise and make recommendations to the park board and city council regarding managing, conserving and enhancing the trees and shrubs located in public areas of the city, assisting property owners and public agencies. A Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) serves to advise and make recommendations to the UFTC on plans and policies.

The CAC is composed of volunteers representing various interest groups including Forestry, Education and Community Outreach including the Susie Forest, Utilities, Commercial Arborists and the General Public. The committee is directed by current Chair, Spokane County Conservation district Forestry Program Manager, Garth Davis, and Spokane Urban Forester, Angel Spell. Some current projects include an updated and expanded format of the City of Spokane street-approved Street Tree list and continued work on Conservation Area Management Plan development and implementation.

Thank you to all of those who volunteer their time and talents for our public trees! For more information regarding these groups and/or opportunities to act for the good of Spokane area trees, visit
[» spokaneurbanforestry.org](http://spokaneurbanforestry.org)
[» sccd.org/forestry.html](http://sccd.org/forestry.html)

Who's hot!

Heather Berndt, Lemonade Graphics

Heather Berndt of Lemonade Graphics is a fabulous gal to be around! Many of you have complimented us on our new image; well the credit goes to Heather. As an independent designer who specializes in helping professional services look snazzy, Heather offers more than graphics. She begins by understanding WHO a company is and then finds ways to communicate that unique identity in an interesting way.

We began collaborating with Heather 3 years ago when we decided to refresh our image. With her support we updated our logo, colors, website and newsletter, and created multiple communication pieces. Heather's combination of marketing experience and understanding of brand communications makes her a valuable partner for small businesses. Call her to help with your next project; you'll be glad you did! ☺



Heather can be reached at 509.389.2851.
View her portfolio at lemonadegraphics.com.

What's not!

Neglected Drip Systems

Don't get us wrong, we love drip systems. In fact, we install them regularly. Drip has many benefits including water conservation and weed suppression. And when done well it offers exceptional adaptability and expandability. But there are some long-term problems that are often overlooked.

Drippers can be displaced by pets, other animals and kids. Raking leaves or other maintenance can also displace or damage parts. In addition, drippers can become clogged with debris or calcium deposits, reducing or blocking intended flow.

Large shrubs and trees can become established with drip systems, but as they grow, moving emitters away from the base of the trunk and increasing the number of drippers and amount of water to the tree can be critical in allowing plants to thrive. Expanding emitter placement can also help to prevent the formation of defects such as girdling and/or adventitious root systems.

» Need an assessment of the "health" of your drip system? Give us a call! ☺

Ask the Tree Care Experts

My Oak tree is turning yellow and burning on the leaf margins. Is it drought stress?

by Becky Phillips

A common issue with Oak trees in our region is a deficiency of iron or manganese. Both deficiencies cause pale green or yellow leaves, with veins that remain green. As the deficiency continues, new growth is stunted, branches die back, and the margins and interveinal areas of leaves become brown. In severe cases, the entire plant may decline over several years and die. ☺

» If your Oak tree is exhibiting these symptoms, give us a call. We will collect a sample of the soil and send it to a lab for testing. Once the results are in, we can establish a plan to get your tree healthy again.



Oak leaf showing iron deficiency

Our eleven acre property needs

specialized care

and having it look great is important to us.

NPHC helps make that happen!

~Hester Rodgers, Spokane



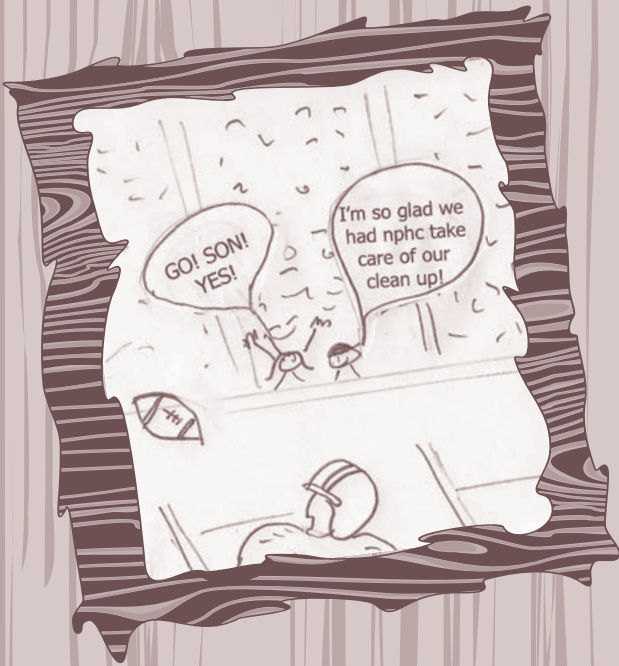
Check it out!

NEW SERVICE

Fall Clean-Up for shrub beds and lawn

Nurture a healthy and beautiful landscape for spring...Call Becky today to schedule your service! 509.892.0110

Proudly celebrating 16 years of excellence in plant health care. Thanks for choosing NPHC!



Large tree pruning

Risk mitigation, property value, aesthetics, tree longevity

by Ben Kappen

When looking at large, mature trees many people wonder: when is the best time to prune? While in most cases it is perfectly acceptable to perform conservative pruning year round, fall signals an opportunity to take a closer look at the specific needs of larger trees.



Safety is a top consideration with all pruning, especially for large trees.

In a perfect world, every tree would innately possess optimal structure and would simply grow

and develop properly spaced and arranged limbs as a matter of course. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Specific site conditions, other trees, storm damage, pests, and previous improper pruning (such as topping) all have an impact on the current and continual development of a tree.

Addressing defects such as crossing /rubbing limbs, or broken, hanging, or weakly attached limbs before winter weather sets in can prevent damage to property and the tree itself. Limbs that tear away from larger limbs or the main trunk under snow or wind load are inherently dangerous and increase disease and insect/pest issues. Often this type of damage allows wood decay to enter limbs or the trunk, weakening the tree and decreasing its lifespan. In addition, pruning for building clearance keeps heavy limbs and leaves from damaging roofing and clogging gutters, preventing potentially dangerous and expensive ice dams from forming.

For most homeowners, a more obvious benefit of expert, targeted pruning is the improvement of a tree's aesthetic value and its contribution to property value. Well-maintained, properly placed trees can reduce the summer heat load on a house by 10% to 30% and well placed evergreens can block cold winter wind, reducing heating costs. While the appraised value of a tree is variable, it is reasonable to estimate that a mature tree in a residential landscape can range in value of from \$1,000 to \$10,000. ↪

Bill, thanks for all the fond memories over great food with wonderful folks! ~Kate

Bill's Cabin Frittata

Oil spray for pan

- 2 cups tri-colored boiling potatoes, diced small
- 1 ½ cups thin asparagus, cut in 1" pieces, blanched
- 1 cup medium mushrooms, quartered
- 1 ½ cup prosciutto, diced small
- ½ cup each of cheddar, parmesan and mozzarella cheese
- 12 large eggs & 1/3 cup milk beaten together
- 1 cup grape tomatoes, halved
- 5 green onions, diced
- 10 leaves fresh basil, slivered
- Freshly ground black pepper (lots)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees and oil a 9x13 pan. Place diced potato in pan and spray them with oil. Roast in oven, stirring occasionally, till lightly crisped. Remove pan from oven and reduce heat to 375 degrees. Add next 5 ingredients in order listed. Place last 4 ingredients attractively on top of egg mixture. Bake for about 45 minutes, until the top is set and browning. Let cool for a few minutes, then cut into squares and serve. ↪

Seasonal To Do

- * Irrigation winterization and evaluation
- * Fall systemic insecticide apps to control spring tree pests
- * Fall insect barrier sprays
- * Lawn winterization and fertilizing
- * Incarcerate plants for deer protection
- * Rake up and discard leaves and fruit to reduce pest populations next season
- * Winterize roses





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THE INSIDE DIRT

Large tree pruning

A tasty frittata for fall

Get to know the UFTC & CAC

A consultative approach: The NPHC difference

by Joe Zubaly

As the tree care provider of choice in the Inland Northwest, we are continually looking for qualities that separate us from the competition. One of those qualities is our consultative sales approach.

Ben and I don't think of ourselves as salesmen, choosing instead to view our role as that of consultant. Although NPHC would love to prune or care for all of the trees on your property, we aren't paid on commission and the pricing of the job is really only one consideration when we visit with you. We are driven by decision making and problem solving that discerns what is best for you and your tree or landscape as a whole. We make these decisions based on family budgets as well as tree longevity.

Being able to discern the proper course of action based on a client's expectations and finances, as well as a tree's prognosis or expected longevity, and to communicate that plan in a way that makes sense to our clients is at the heart of what makes NPHC different.

Most often, a "sales call" with me or Ben is more of a learning experience than a sales pitch. We are

Informed, mutual decision making is at the core of our mission statement.

much more inclined to sell our knowledge than to sell our equipment or standing in the arboricultural community. We like it that way and so do our clients. Informed, mutual decision making is at the core of our mission statement, which translates to educated clients. Give us a call! We guarantee you'll be pleasantly surprised with the NPHC difference. ☞

Ben Kappen (l) and Joe Zubaly lead the consulting divisions at NPHC and have a combined 35 years experience in the arboricultural industry.

