

talk

ISSUE NO. 18
SPRING 2005

Free Mulch

Lam Tree offers free mulch 12 months a year. Most of the time we'll even deliver it free as well, depending on your location. Springtime is the time of year when most people start their landscaping projects, and get out in their gardens. If you have a need for mulch, we're sitting on about 2000 cubic yards right now, and we're making more as we speak. This mulch is the byproduct of the trees we remove and trim daily. It is very functional for horse corrals, playgrounds, pet enclosures, gardens, and many other uses. So give us a call and get on the list. 🌲



Plant Health Care

Most people visit their doctor and dentist at least once a year for a checkup. It's only prudent to see how your health is, and to diagnose and treat problems before they get serious. At Lam we believe the same should be true for your trees. While we don't pretend to think that you should be as concerned about the health of your trees as the health of your body, the same rule holds true – problems will not usually become serious if you do preventive care.

The most common reason a property owner calls an arborist is concern that something is wrong with a tree. It may be that some of the leaves or needles are discolored, a branch has died, or perhaps the entire tree has been dropping needles. Sometimes the cause of concern is a minor problem that is easily explained and corrected. Other times the problem is more complex with several underlying causes and a remedy that requires



Jefferson County Biomass Feasibility Study

Speaking of mulch, recently a feasibility study was completed on the possibility of building a facility in Jefferson County which would use forest biomass (mulch, branches, etc) to power an energy production plant.

The reason for the study was concern by Jefferson County about how to dispose of the huge amount of forest biomass produced by forest thinning projects. The initial conclusions of the study are very positive

continued on page 2

“P.H.C. involves monitoring your trees, using preventive treatments, and working closely with you, the tree owner, to keep your trees and forest healthy.”

your trees and forest healthy. The health and vitality of your trees represent a significant part of your property value. Their size and longevity make them worthy of preventive care. With a P.H.C. visit we can inspect your trees and alert you to problems such as an early sign of bark beetle or dwarf mistletoe attack, or per-

treatments extending over several years. There are instances in which the problem has gone undetected for so long that the tree cannot be helped, and the only option is removal. If we had had been called earlier, perhaps the tree could have been saved. Unfortunately this last scenario is the most common one.

Situations such as this can be avoided by entering into our Plant Health Care (P.H.C.) program. P.H.C. involves monitoring your trees, using preventive treatments, and working closely with you, the tree owner, to keep

continued on page 3

Tentative Pine Beetle Subdivision Spray Dates

Week of May 9

The Ridge @Hiwan/
Mt. Vernon C.C./ Timbervale

Week of May 16

Hiwan C.C. 1st –6th filings

Week of May 23

Blue Creek 1, 2, 3/
Upper Bear Creek

Week of May 30

The Woods/ Tanoa/ Elk Summit

Week of June 6

The Greens/ The Island/
The Promontory/ Troutdale

Week of June 13

The Timbers/ Evergreen
Highlands/ Evergreen Meadows

Week of June 20

Idaho Springs/ Evergreen Heights/
Evergreen Park Estates

Week of June 27

The Homestead/ Aspen Park/
Conifer/ Pine Jct/ Bailey

Biomass Study *(con't. from pg 1)*

and a facility may be built not too far in the future, possibly in the Morrison area. As one of the larger private sector producers of forest biomass in Jefferson County, we at Lam Tree applaud this forward thinking on the part of the county. Although we are proud to say we have recycled every ounce of biomass we've produced for the past 25 years or so, it is getting more difficult all the time to find a home for the 3,000 to 4,000 cubic yards we produce annually. Look for updates on this in local publications and here in our newsletters. 🌲

Spring 2005 Insect and Disease Update

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE

Insect populations are stable but remain high. Because of the ongoing drought, ponderosa pines remain susceptible to M.P.B. attack. Spraying of high value pines is strongly recommended. Spray dates are from early May through mid-July.

IPS BEETLE

Ips Beetle populations are extremely high right now. In areas with elevations in the range of 7800ft. through 8600 ft. this insect is killing thousands of trees annually. These areas include Soda Creek, Upper Bear Creek, Buffalo Park, Brook Forest, Echo Hills, and higher parts of Evergreen Meadows, as well as most other areas in this elevation range. The time to preventively spray for Ips is early spring, so if you haven't sprayed by the time you read this, give us a call.

DOUGLAS FIR BEETLE

We continue to see patches of trees attacked by D.F.B. Usually these are on crowded north facing stands, and/or on firs that are weak from root damage. Beetles emerge in June, so preventive spraying should be done by May.

SPRUCE BEETLE

As the name implies this beetle is host specific to spruces. It is especially bad along Bear Creek between Evergreen and Kittredge, and also in Marshdale and Evergreen Meadows. Preventive spraying should be done by the end of April.

DWARF MISTLETOE

This parasitic plant attaches itself to pine trees and slowly kills them. Spraying is done in July or August before seeds explode and spreading occurs. Along with spraying, forest management of infected stands is usually the best treatment plan.

COOLEY SPRUCE GALL APHID

This insect attacks and destroys the new growth on Colorado Spruce trees. While never fatal by itself, it can cause spruces to lose vigor and make them more susceptible to other problems. Growth is also stunted, and the trees appearance is affected. Spruce gall populations continue to be high in the area. Customers who spray in spring and fall are getting excellent control. We are trying to get all C.S.G.A. customers on a twice a year program.

ASPEN INSECTS AND DISEASES

Outbreaks of fungus tend to be worse in wet years. Two or more fungicide treatments after budbreak (around Memorial Day or just after) can help control fungus problems. We always add insecticide to these applications to get aphid control as well

POPLAR BORER

This insect attacks aspen as well as cottonwoods, which are both in the poplar family. It is especially bad in the Genesee area and parts of North Evergreen. Preventive spraying should be done in March or April. 🌲



When trimming and inspecting customer's trees, we often see some really bad pruning cuts. This can be very harmful to the tree. On the above picture you can see the proper location for your final pruning cut when trimming a tree. It is important to not cut into the branch collar, but at the same time you should not leave a long stub. At Lam, we think tree trimming should be left to professionals, but if you are going to tackle the job yourself, maybe this info will help. 🌲

Plant Health Care (cont. from pg 1)

haps we'll notice a sign of stress, which can be helped with a root treatment. Our I.S.A. certified arborists at Lam have the training and knowledge to detect problems that you might not notice.

Cost for a P.H.C. program is typically small, especially when compared to the cost of removing large trees. Each program is individually designed to fit the needs of each particular landscape. Some small acreages can be visited four times annually for \$30 per visit. Larger properties cost more, depending on the size of the property and how many trees and problems are inspected. Programs can include inspections only, or can entail an entire treatment plan as well.

Some of you have already signed up for our P.H.C. program, however the vast majority of you prefer to deal with problems as they arise. We would love the opportunity to keep your trees healthy preventively, so call our office to get on the program. 🌲

EMPLOYEE PROFILE: Matt Albrecht

Matt has been with Lam for one year and works on the tree removal and trimming crew. He was born in New York but has spent most of his life here in Evergreen. He graduated from Conifer High School in 2003, and currently lives in Evergreen Meadows. Matt enjoys the physical aspect of working at Lam.



His crew typically handles the jobs that require a lot of perseverance and hard work. Matt recently passed his commercial driving test and will be able to drive our biggest trucks. Matt hopes to make his career in the tree care industry. 🌲

Keep Elk and Deer Away

Since becoming a dealer for the "Scarecrow" animal control product, we have had a huge response from many of you. We will continue to have these available at \$59.95.



For those of you who haven't seen one yet, the Scarecrow simply attaches to your garden hose and when a deer or elk or other animal gets near it, a motion sensor shoots a stream of water at the animal. It's not cruel to the animal, and it's the only thing we've seen that works effectively to keep elk and deer away. Call our office anytime to order. 🌲

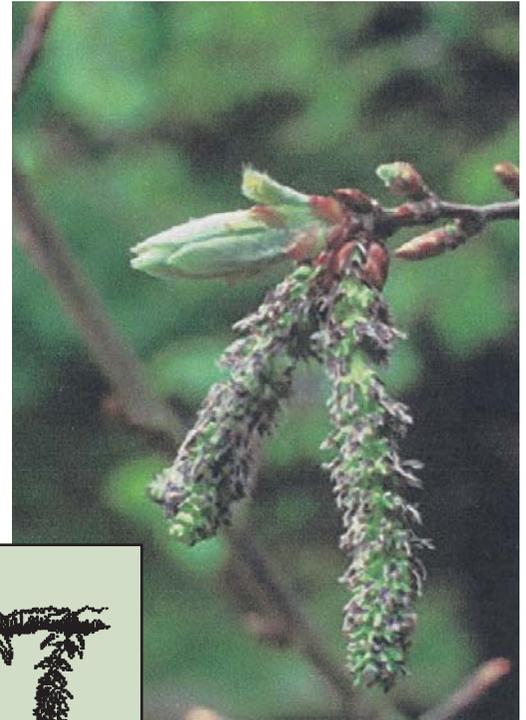
Do you have a tree in a difficult spot that needs to be removed?

We can remove any tree from any spot. The tree removal pictured here was in a very inaccessible area below the spillway of Evergreen Lake Dam. We used a 120 ft. crane to grab this large tree in 3 pieces and bring the sections up to Hwy 74 just west of the stoplight downtown. We didn't have to hold up traffic for very long, but it created a traffic jam because motorists were stopping to stare at the sight of the tree sections being craned out. If you have a difficult removal call us, we can handle it!

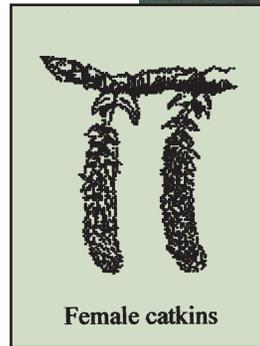


Interesting Tree Fact

Some tree species have all their reproductive parts on the same tree (monoecious). Other species consist of male trees and female trees (dioecious). An example of a monoecious tree is our local ponderosa pine. It contains pinecones, which are the female reproductive part, and also the pollen pods (these create the green dust that flies everywhere in June), which fertilize the seed, contained inside the pinecone. An example of dioecious tree is the aspen tree. Individual trees are either male or female. Trees flower in early spring before leaves appear, with both the male and female trees producing catkins. Pollinated female catkins ripen in early summer and release tiny seeds. 🌲



Female catkins on an aspen tree in spring.



LAM TREE SERVICE, INC.

P.O. Box 2486
 Evergreen, CO 80437-2486
 303-674-8733
 877-674-8733 Toll-Free
 Fax 303-674-1968
 www.lamtree.com

PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Permit No. 95

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

- **TRIMMING**
- **REMOVALS**
- **CONSULTING**
- **SPRAYING**

We gladly accept