

Lam Tree Service

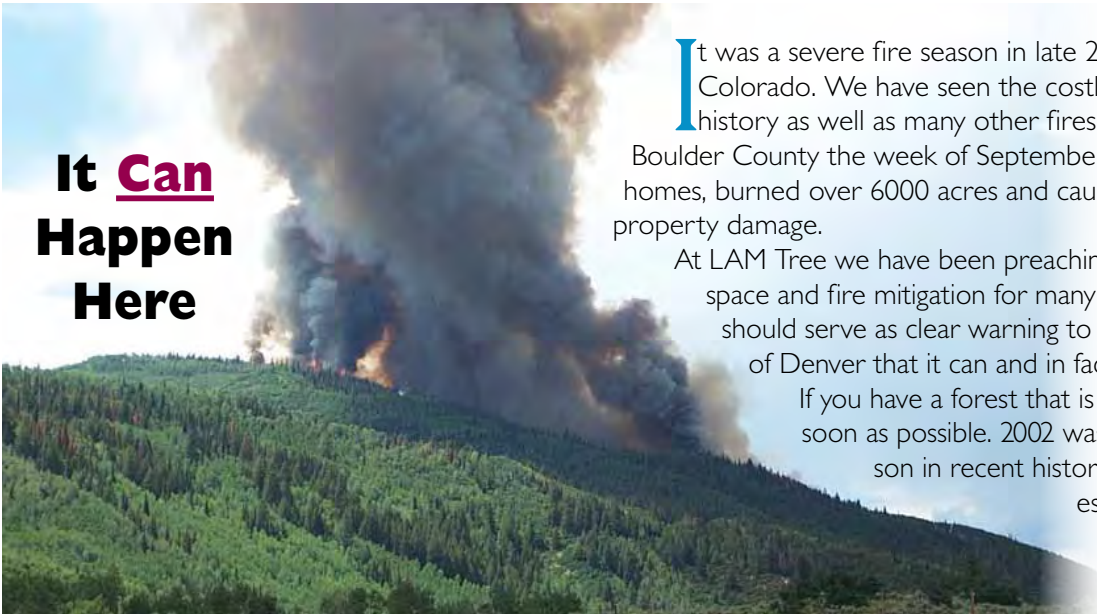
"Your Local Tree Experts
Since 1978"



talk

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It Can Happen Here



It was a severe fire season in late 2010 in the Front Range of Colorado. We have seen the costliest wildfire in Colorado's history as well as many other fires. The Fourmile fire in Boulder County the week of September 6, 2010 destroyed 169 homes, burned over 6000 acres and caused over 70 million dollars of property damage.

At LAM Tree we have been preaching the benefits of defensible space and fire mitigation for many years. The fires in Boulder should serve as clear warning to all of us in the foothills west of Denver that it can and in fact will happen here eventually.

If you have a forest that is in need of thinning do it as soon as possible. 2002 was probably the worst fire season in recent history. 2010 was another bad year, especially the latter part of the season. Any year in Colorado can bring dangerous fire conditions.

The area that burned in the Fourmile fire in 2010 is very similar to parts of the Evergreen area. The topography is similar. The forests were crowded and unhealthy as are our local forests. All it takes is one lightning strike or a careless fire or even a cigarette butt and we will be in the same situation as the folks in Boulder who lost their homes in 2010.

We often hear from our customers that if a fire comes through here they would want to just get an insurance check and move. That is not always how it works. First of all fires don't march in a straight line. Your house may survive and still have great aesthetics left. Also, depending on your policy your insurance company may not pay for you to relocate. Additionally, the trauma of losing all your possessions, and maybe even pets, is probably not something you want to go through.

It **can** happen here. Please call us to walk your property with you. We can give you advice on which trees to remove or trim to make your home safer in the event of a catastrophic wildfire.



*A casualty of the
Fourmile Fire 2010.*

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2010 LAM Tree Scholarship Announced



We are proud to announce that Mark Gallo is the recipient of the 2010 LAM Tree Scholarship.

Mark is a 2010 high school graduate and is now attending Northern Arizona University. He is studying Environmental Sciences. The LAM Tree Scholarship is awarded annually through Evergreen Scholarship/Bootstraps to a deserving local high school student who is interested in the outdoor sciences. We congratulate Mark and wish him the best of luck in the future.

Pine Beetle Update



The summer of 2010 brought us more evidence of the spread of the Mountain Pine Beetle into ponderosa pines the Front Range foothills. The beetle is working its way eastward from the high country. We have seen groups of ponderosa pines attacked in the Soda Creek area, Upper Bear Creek area and saw the first large patch – about forty mature ponderosas – in the El Rancho area. In addition we are starting to see occasional small groups attacked in Evergreen proper. We are recommending that landowners preventively spray all their “high value” ponderosa pines. While the definition of high value can vary from property to property and from person to person, landowners need to be increasingly vigilant. Please refer to our website for more information on what to do in advance of the spread of pine beetles.

Employee Profile

Mike Sullivan

Mike has been with LAM for just two years but we can barely remember what it was like without him. Mike came to Colorado from the Boston area in 2000. He worked in the construction trade for 17 years. He works on our trim and removal crew and has taken to arboriculture like a fish to water. Mike is already an excellent tree climber and bucket operator. He loves to learn more about tree climbing techniques and has attended Arbor Master training and has volunteered at our local I. S. A. chapter climbing events. He is taking the I.S.A. Certified Arborist exam this winter. When he's not in a tree Mike plays guitar in a rock band and enjoys hiking. He lives in Indian Hills with his girlfriend Abby.



Featured Tree

Russian Hawthorn (*Crataegus ambigua*)

Russian Hawthorn is a small tree that will grow to 15 to 20 feet. It is an excellent choice for the foothills area.

It prefers full sun and doesn't require much water. It will also tolerate our clay soils. Foliage is medium green. Fall color is yellow. Flowers are white and appear in spring. The beautiful blooms last only a few weeks. The fruit is a red berry that appears in



"Perhaps the best quality of the Russian Hawthorn for our area is its resistance to elk and deer. The half-inch to one-inch long thorns make them unattractive to the constant browsing of our ubiquitous local animals."

August. The berries attract birds. The bark is golden and it sheds its outer layers.

Russian Hawthorn has a twisting shape that makes it an interesting looking tree and attractive even in winter. The rather small mature size makes it an excellent choice for relatively small spaces.

Russian Hawthorn are resistant to Cedar-Apple Rust and don't have many insect problems. Perhaps the best quality of the Russian Hawthorn for our area is its resistance to elk and deer. The half-inch to one-inch long thorns make them unattractive to the constant browsing of our ubiquitous local animals.

All things considered, the Russian Hawthorn is one the best choices for an ornamental deciduous tree in the foothills. It is on our very short list of excellent choices for planting here in the foothills. Give us a call to set up a site inspection for your new Russian Hawthorns.



Winter Watering

As we go to press we have just gone through the driest fall in recorded history of weather in Colorado. If the drought persists into this winter here are a few tips for keeping your trees and shrubs alive and healthy:

- Pick a day with a forecast for fairly warm temperatures.
- Water your trees and shrubs, including mature ones, early in the day. Just set a garden hose inside the dripline of the plant and turn it on fairly low volume.
- A good rule of thumb is give the plant about 10 gallons of water for each one-inch of trunk diameter.
- You can do this twice a month or more during drought conditions.

Save Money- Call Us in Winter

Don't forget, you can save money on tree work by calling us during our slow season for your tree removals and trimming. As our business has grown over the past 33 years, our off-season has gotten smaller, but if you give us a call between January 15 and March 31 you can often save between 10% -30% off our regular rates.

Pine Beetle Winter Identification

The best time to check for Pine Beetle attack is in winter. Check for "pitch tubes" on the trunks of your trees. If you see pitch tubes, cut a piece of bark off and see if the wood under the bark is discolored bluish gray. If so, the trees need to be removed.



If you're not sure about the tree, give us a call—we're glad to help.

Recycling and Sustainability

At LAM Tree we recycle every piece of every tree we work on. When we remove trees all the wood is processed into firewood, sold to area residents, and used to heat their homes. The branches are chipped into our trucks and delivered direct to area homes and businesses where the material is used for gardens, animal enclosures, playgrounds and various other uses. We are proud to say that in all our years in business no wood or mulch has ever found it's way into a landfill.



We also recycle all materials at our shop through the great folks at E.D.S. Waste Solutions, and we are involved with the group E.A.S.+Y. (Evergreen Alliance for Sustainability and You). You will be hearing a lot about this group in the near future. E.A.S.+Y. is a group of area residents who are working to facilitate sustainability in the Evergreen area and have lots of projects on the drawing board. We are glad to be working with this group. Our first project with E.A.S.+Y. is recycling Christmas trees at the transfer station on Hwy. 73. We hope to do this annually and we hope to eventually chip several thousand trees there each year.



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"Your Local Tree Experts Since 1978"

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We gladly accept 