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Canopy Chatter



Employee Corner>>>

Chris Walmsley

Chris has been working with Green Valley Tree for 2 years and is our General Foreman. He is currently studying for his CTSP. Chris is a skilled bucket operator, Climber and machine operator. In Chris's off time he enjoys spending time fishing and camping with his kids.



Plant Health Care

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH).

It may still be winter but spring is just around the corner. With spring comes new leaves on trees and shrubs, gorgeous flowers and... insects, pests, and diseases. Early Identification and treatment of pest and disease issues is far more effective than waiting until problems become severe.

EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)

EAB is an exotic beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan near Detroit in the summer of 2002. The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage but cause little damage. The larvae feed on the inner bark of the ash trees, disrupting the trees ability to transport water and nutrients. See picture for example. Woodpeckers like EAB larvae; heavy woodpecker damage on ash trees may be a sign of infestation. It is very important to get ahead of the curve if you would like to preserve your ash trees and enjoy their beauty for years to come. Thankfully here at Green Valley Tree, we have the ability to protect your trees against this pest. We do this by injecting the trees, which makes it safe for our pollinator friends. Not only is it more cost effective to treat your trees, but it also help keep the value of your home. The only alternative is to have your tree removed, as these trees can become dangerous very quickly.



HWA (Hemlock Woolly Adelgid)

HWA is an invasive, aphid-like insect that attacks North American Hemlocks. HWA are very small and often times hard to see, but they can be easily identified by the white woolly masses they form on the underside of the branches at the base of the needles. HWA insert their long mouthparts and begin feeding on the trees's stored starches. HWA remain in the same spot for the rest of their live, continually feeding and developing into adults. Their feeding severely damages the canopy of the host tree. Tree health declines and mortality usually occurs within 4 to 10 years. Some signs of infestation are white woolly masses on the underside of branches at the base of needles, needle loss and branch dieback or gray-tinted needles. We can once again either inject, do a bark application, or do a foliar spray. If the HWA is not taken care of in a timely manner the trees will need to be removed.

Community Corner

On March 29th of 2020, Green Valley Tree will be sponsoring the Make-A-Wish 5k road race at the Coventry Highschool. The race is from 12pm to 2pm. All the proceeds of this 5k road race go towards the Make-A-Wish CT foundation to help grant wishes and change the lives of children with critical illnesses. The Make-A-Wish foundation started in May of 1983 with the leadership of Jack Stanford, the little engine that could. The Make-A-Wish Connecticut Chapter has made more than 2,500 wishes come true since it's inception in 1986.



Tips & Tricks for this spring

1. Inspect your trees for overall health – look for dead, damaged or diseased trees or tree limbs – look for things like frostbite or lesions on leaves. Get your trees trimmed or pruned to promote healthy growth for the spring season.
2. Check mulch leavels, mulch CAN be a good thing for your trees if its mulched correctly. Keeping soil covered 3-5 inches from the trunk of the tree and extending 1-2 feet from the tree in all directions. Mulch also helps prevent/suppress weeds from growing at the base of your tree. Check out our education station for more info!
3. Speaking of weeds – its important that weeds and excess debris around the base of the tree are removed. Weeds compete with your tree for water and nutrients.
4. Spring is the perfect time to plant new trees. Here at GVT we love to plant trees! Ask us about our replanting program and see how much you can save!



Testimonial

“Josh and his crew have done an excellent job for us three times now, including one drone recovery operation. They’ve been on time, did great work, cleaned up as much as we asked them to. I wont hesitate to hire them again.”

- Jeff Beebe from
Chaplin, CT

Education Station

In this quarters education station, we want to talk about the effects of mulch volcanoes. Mulch volcanoes are mounds of mulch portioned around the base of your tree that causes damage due to the mulch being positioned so high up on the trees bark. Mulch volcanoes cause damage because tree bark is supposed to protect the trunk, tree bark works best in air and light, when mulch is piled onto the bark it is now exposed to dark and moisture. Bark will begin to rot, and rotted bark cannot protect the tree from insects and diseases. In fact, diseases grow better in this type of environment. Mulch volcanoes can result in a number of side effects including an, almost, compost pile. Where the material becomes hot enough to kill the inner bark of young trees or prevent the natural hardening off period where trees prepare for winter. When applied correctly mulch protects your tree from lawn mower and string trimmer damage, while keeping the soil moist and stabilizing the temperature in summer and winter.

