# AUTUMN MAINTENANCE





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# BEAUTIFUL THINGS HAPPEN WHEN PREVENTION TAKES ROOT

Fall or early winter is the very best time for us to inspect and treat your trees and shrubs to promote their health, safety and beauty for the rest of the year. Preventive care today will help deliver a more beautiful landscape this spring and summer. Our local arborists, backed by the scientists at The Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories, provide unmatched expertise and service to help you maintain and enhance—your landscape value.

#### FALL AND EARLY WINTER CHECKLIST FOR PROACTIVE TREE AND SHRUB CARE

~	Assess your landscape needs and establish next season's goals.
$\checkmark$	Identify and treat overwintering pest populations.
~	Begin horticultural oil treatments if necessary for fall feeding pests and next year's insects and mites.
$\checkmark$	Fertilize plantings to encourage root development.
$\checkmark$	Prune dead, broken and interfering branches.
1	If the canopy is dense, prune (thin) live branches to reduce wind resistance and improve appearance.
~	Check for structural weaknesses in branch junctions— install cabling and/or bracing if necessary.
~	Consider lightning protection for trees at risk or close to structures.
~	Mulch, protect from animal damage and the drying effects of winter weather.



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#### REGULAR MAINTENANCE CAN CAN SAVE YOU FROM COSTLY PROBLEMS

## PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT

When damaging pests or tree diseases are identified, traditional, as well as organic products, are available to effectively control infestations. To ensure our products and methods are safe and effective, they're tested by the scientists at our research laboratories. As part of our proactive approach to tree health, regular inspections enable our arborists to identify issues early so that treatments can be timed appropriately. We can also address unexpected issues that arise as needed. Based on your preferences and goals, we will work with you to meet your needs and the needs of your landscape.

#### PRUNING

Once leaves have fallen, most trees become dormant. Without leaves, the shape and structure is clearly visible, which makes it easier to identify any dead, broken or interfering branches. It is important to note that each tree is different and pruning incorrectly or at the wrong time can cause damage. A skilled arborist will consider the desired appearance, optimum percentage of branches to remove and how to encourage good growing habits. When performed by professionals, pruning results in safer, healthier and more attractive trees and shrubs.



# LIGHTNING PROTECTION

Lightning protection systems help defend the trees on your property from damaging strikes that can split or shatter trunks and branches. Damage may immediately kill trees or weaken them so severely that they can be susceptible to insect invasion. Protection systems should be considered for high-value trees, as well as those close to homes and structures. While any tree may be struck, species like ash, catalpa, elm, hemlock, locust, tulip poplar, maple, oak, pine and spruce are typically most vulnerable.

# CABLING AND BRACING

Cables and brace rods are supplemental structural supports that reduce the risk of failure for weak branches and multiple stems. As with pruning, the advantage of doing this in fall or winter is an unobstructed view of the tree's structure. With the unpredictable weather of winter, identifying and correcting any potentially hazardous structural issues now can reduce the risk of damage.

#### COMPLETE TREE AND SHRUB CARE SERVICES

Bartlett Tree Experts is a 100+ year old tree and shrub care company with global reach and local roots. No matter the size or scope of your needs, we provide expert, attentive service, a safety-first record and a full range of services to help customers maintain beautiful, healthy trees and shrubs.

- PRUNING
- PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT
- SOIL CARE AND FERTILIZATION
- CABLING AND BRACING
- TREE LIGHTNING PROTECTION
- REMOVALS



# A PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALTHIER TREES

#### SOIL CARE AND FERTILIZATION

When trees are fertilized during the fall, essential nutrients are added to the soil for critical root development. Root systems then store those nutrients all winter ensuring the tree has all it needs for new growth in spring. Fall fertilization improves resistance to insects and disease, and helps ensure sufficient energy will be available to develop new leaves, shoots and flowers.

# SOIL NUTRIENT ANALYSIS

All soils are different. Nutrient levels and soil characteristics vary from site to site. After collecting a soil sample, our scientists conduct an in-depth soil nutrient analysis to determine exactly what is—and is not—in the soil. With this information, fertilizer can be adapted to deliver exactly what the plant needs.

# FERTILIZER & SOIL AMENDMENTS

BOOST® fertilizers are our own specially-formulated slowrelease fertilizers designed to replenish nutrients based on your geographic area and the specific needs of your soil. BOOST Natural is a completely organic tree fertilizer, approved by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) and proven effective for supplying nutrients in a single application. Also approved by OMRI is Bartlett's Premium Landscape Biochar. This carbon-rich soil additive improves the condition of the soil, creating a better environment for growing trees and shrubs.

# **ROOT INVIGORATION**

Promoting root growth and improving soil conditions can have a dramatic impact on tree health. As part of root invigoration, an arborist uses a supersonic air tool to break up compacted soil, which is then followed by the addition of nutrients and organic matter. Because root invigoration safely stimulates root growth, it can help revive declining trees and foster the growth of young and transplanted trees.