



The Prairie Arborist

The Official Publication of the ISA Prairie Chapter Issue 4 2020

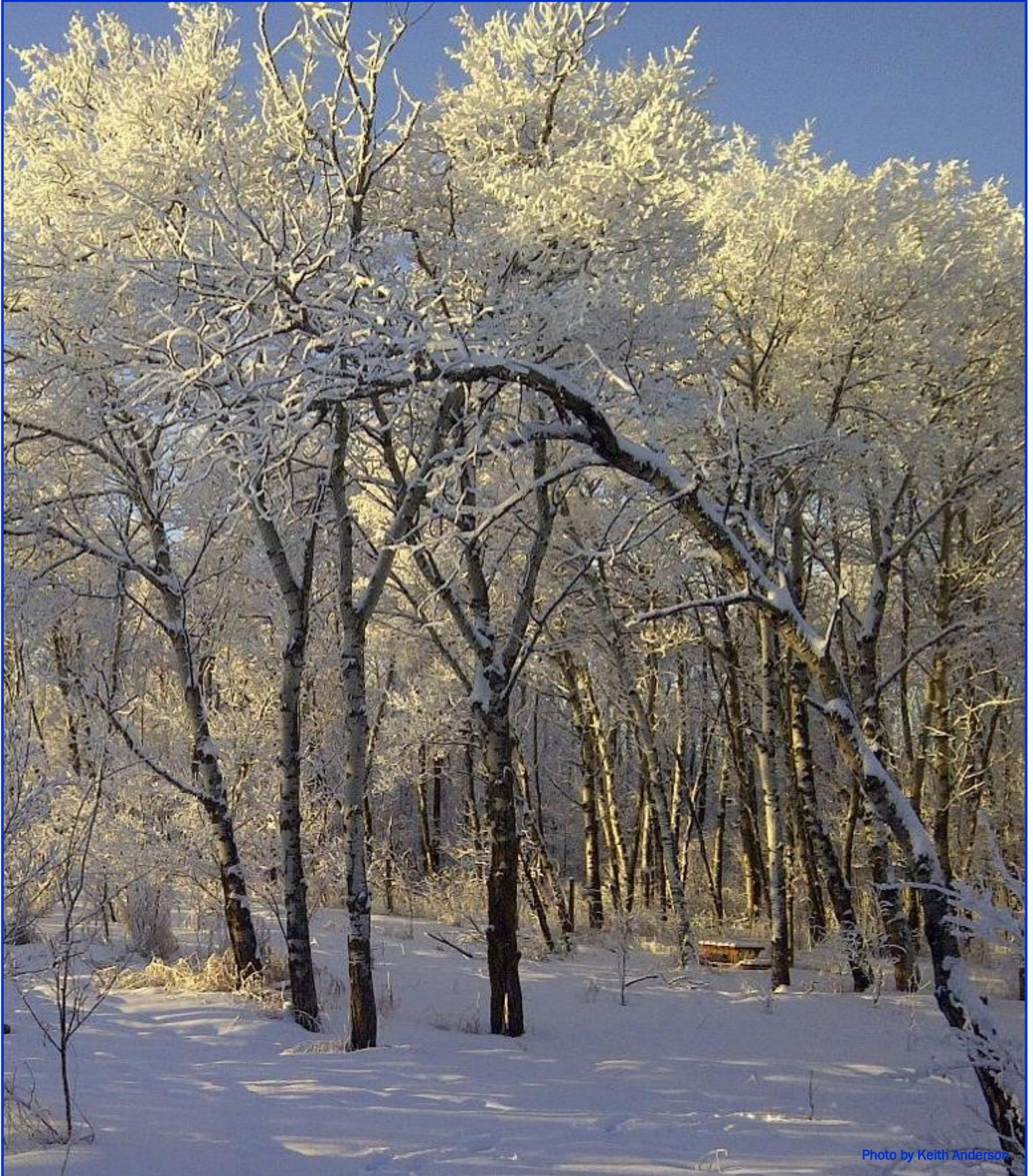


Photo by Keith Anderson



Bonnie Fermanuik
President

As 2020 draws to a close and we enter 2021 we can look forward to improved conditions but we may never return to our OLD norm.

We have all improved our technological abilities so that we know we don't always have to meet face to face. But I personally miss those face to face meetings.

As a board we have tried to be creative with our finances and education events. We look forward to offering webinars over the next few months that will assist you in getting the CEU's you need to maintain your certification. Our Executive Director will continue to inform the membership of webinar opportunities that offer CEU's from other organizations and Chapters.

I hope some of you were able to attend the ISA's first ever virtual conference in December. That opportunity was a positive outcome from Covid 19 that provided us with the ability attend sessions from some of the best speakers in the world, without the travel expenses.

If you have ideas for Webinar topics, or need training in a specific aspect of our industry, I encourage you to contact the Chapter office.

Stay turned for the emails advertising our webinars. If you haven't already renewed your 2021 membership please renew it at your earliest opportunity. There is a membership application on page 14 of this newsletter.

I wish you all a safe and healthy holiday season. I hope you all get the chance to enjoy your families and friends in the most meaningful way possible.

Congratulations to Green Drop Tree Care of Winnipeg, winners of the 2020 Prairie Chapter Virtual Tree Climbing Competition.



Toni Marie Newsham V.P.

Coming Soon! Women's Tree Climbing Workshop

The ISA Prairie Chapter has a strong and growing presence of women in Arboriculture careers.

However, many female Arborists may be the only woman on their crew or even within their company.

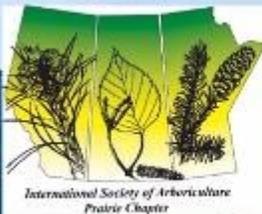
The Chapter would like to create an opportunity for female Arborists to meet, network, learn new skills, and climb some trees! A committee from the ISA Prairie Chapter is working hard to create a weekend experience for female arborists of all levels to learn from each other and instructors.

While the planning of this workshop is still coming together, it is currently booked for June 2021 in Olds, Alberta. There is an opportunity to hold the event on the campus of Olds College which has beautiful, mature trees to use, Arboriculture specific instruction space, accommodations for participants right on campus, and great meal options.

Continuing Education Unit credits (CEU's) will also be made available for Certified Arborists.

We would like to get an idea of how many participants to plan this event for. Let us know your opinion! Would you attend this event? What would you like to see from this workshop? Is there a certain topic that you would like discussed amongst women Arborists? This could be a fantastic way to learn and support each other in a growing workforce.

Please contact the ISA Prairie Chapter Office at office@isaprairie.com with any questions and feedback you might have about this upcoming event!



ISA Prairie Chapter
Edmonton
TRAQ CLASS OF 2020

#ruontraq?



Submitted by Dwayne Neustaeter



Welcome to Jacquie Butler your new Director at Large for Alberta

I have been a part of the Horticulture Industry since

I was a teenager growing up in Southern Alberta.

After graduating from the Arboriculture Diploma at Olds College in 2000, I found myself in a landscape nursery setting for a few years before starting my family. I started my Municipal Arborist career 15 years ago and have never looked back.

It was during this time I was able to work with and learn from many great people in the industry. I found a passion for our Urban forests and take great pride in helping to make sure that future generations can enjoy the same benefits we receive today.

As a TRAQ and Certified arborist, I have conducted and consulted on a variety of arboriculture practices and feel privileged to belong to such a great community. I have volunteered for various other organizations including communities in bloom, adult learning and a variety of sports and school organizations.

I am looking forward to meeting new people and learning more about the ISA Prairie chapter. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Jacqueline Butler

“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn”
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Save the Date

The 2021 Prairie Chapter Tree Climbing Competition will be in Regina, Saskatchewan August 28, 29

Congratulations to the winner of the Prairie Chapter Virtual Climbing Competition Contest, Green Drop Tree Care of Winnipeg. You can see their video on the Chapter Facebook page

The 2021 Prairie Chapter Annual Conference will be in St Albert, AB October 25, 26



Save the Date

Certification Exam

No paper based exams are scheduled for the Prairie Chapter at this time.

You can write on line whenever you're ready.

Check

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/Portals/0/Assets/PDF/Certification-Applications/cert-Application-Certified-Arborist.pdf>



Save the Date

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal

The next workshop will be in Alberta in the spring of 2021 but is dependant upon what Covid restrictions permit.

Check Workshops at www.isaprairie.com



ASCA's Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualification (TPAQ)

This course is being revised.

There are no workshops available this time.

Check the Workshops button at www.isaprairie.com for upcoming TPAQ training

Diversification of park/boulevard/landscape trees for the prairie provinces.

By Wilbert G. Ronald

Introduction—Diversity in shade trees is the concept of widening genus and species choices to avoid overuse of a limited group of trees such as American elm (30 % of prairie boulevard trees) and ash (more than 30% of trees).

Over use of a small group of trees such as American elm and ash, risks exposure to a new pest or disease such as EAB and to the continued spread of DED. Epidemic spread can be elevated by large closely spaced single species plantings.

There are implications for both visual and economic losses when a threat devastates a widely used tree species or genus. I am writing about diversification from experience at Jeffries Nurseries in Manitoba.

Diversification is a multiple step process.

Tree growers must produce a wider diversity followed by cities and landscapers who must increase the use of these new trees.

For example, Jeffries Nurseries has been increasing the number of hardy northern sugar maples in production but most are headed to Alberta where one major wholesale nursery believes in using them. Very few are used in Manitoba even though they grow well here and are more at home. We cannot produce large numbers of new trees without seeing an end use so it is good for us all to be talking together. For example, we sold 10 Butternut/Black Walnut caliper trees last year, a group of trees that are suited to much larger use in green spaces and parks.



Amur Cork Tree -Photo by Phillip Ronald

Diversification takes time. It takes time for growers to test new trees often involving 5 or more years to test followed by 4-6

(Continued on page 5)



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(Continued from page 4)

years to increase in number and grow to caliper size. Previously ash, for a company such as Jeffries Nurseries, may have represented 35% of all caliper nursery production and we have to find a number of species to diversify.



Silver Cloud Photo by Jeffries Nurseries

For our company, deciduous tree sales in 2020 were about 20% flowering crabapple, 20% 'Silver Cloud' silver maple, sugar and other large growing maples, 15% lindens, 10% elms with other trees making up the remaining 35% of sales.

Diversification takes time in cities as well. If a city has 100,000 plus boulevard trees

and is only replanting 4000 new types of trees per year, then it will take 25 years to begin to replace existing trees. Developing tree diversity will take time!

Diversification brings some concerns about the limitation of new trees. How do these trees compare with the main stays of years past? Some concerns include transplant ease, moisture requirements, soils and soil alkalinity, crown structure, fruit drop, marginal hardiness and other factors such as animal/bird/rodent damage.

The future of tree production for prairie markets.

We see a mix of about 60% large growing trees and 40% small flowering trees. For large growing trees, 'Silver Cloud' maple, a seedless silver maple, and Sugar maples could settle at 10%, 'Baron' seedless boxelder could be 5%, male cork tree could be 5%, hackberry should be 5%, oaks should be 5%, DED resistant Asiatic elms including 'Discovery', 'Freedom', 'Northern Empress' and 'Triumph' should make 15% and lindens should make up to 15%.

For the remaining 40% smaller growing trees, there are some excellent disease resistant flowering crabapples such as 'Starlite' and 'Gladiator' which have potential to fill 15% of this market. 'Ming' cherry and 'Klondike' Amur cherry should be at 5%, Japanese tree lilac at 5%, Amur/tatarian maples at 10% with other trees such as hawthorns making up the balance of the smaller trees.

Many of the above trees require extra care to help them become established in the planting sites of the modern city. It is the challenge we have to respond to if we are to maintain a "green canopy" in our major prairie cities.



Little Leaf Linden-Dawes Arboretum

Keep Alberta DED free

- Under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act (APA) "Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (PNCR)" the Dutch Elm Disease (DED) pathogens, smaller European elm bark beetle, and the native elm bark beetle are named declared pests.
- DED prevention/control measures for Alberta are enforceable under the APA and are found on the STOPDED website.
- Elm trees from a DED infected province cannot be shipped into Alberta.
- Elm Pruning Ban is April 1 -September 30 annually.



Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease
www.stopded.org 1-877-837-ELMS (3567)

By Toso Bozic

Poplar borer (*Saperda calcarata* Say) is a native North American wood boring beetle that attack native aspen, balsam poplar and willows as well as a variety of poplar cultivars including Swedish aspen and Towering Poplar.

Many Swedish aspen and Towering poplar trees have been planted in urban areas that besides their short life span, susceptibility to drought and bronze leaves disease (BLD) are also frequently attacked by this insect. These fast-growing trees are planted along property fences, roads, driveways, on limited spaces and anywhere to create a “living wall” for private screens to separate their properties from others.

Like other tree species these aspen/poplars are susceptible to many insects and diseases. One of the most common insects for Swedish aspen and Towering poplar in urban area is the North American native wood boring beetle - poplar borer.

Pest ID

It is relatively easy to recognize this insect. From a short distance, you

will notice the long antennas on the round head with a gray colour body that is sparkled with small brown spots on wings and several orange stripes along the elongated body. A mature insect is 2-3 cm in length with antennas that are the same size as the body. The life cycle of this insect is between 2 to 5 years.

The insect attacks all age of poplar trees but prefers trees that have more than 10 cm in diameter, a size of stem or branch. They usually attack from the south to south-west side of tree. They prefer healthy and vigorous trees, but the heaviest attack on drought-stricken trees will occur.

The poplar borer usually does not kill a tree but it weakens it. Larvae is creating a tunnel in heartwood, therefore weakening the structure of the stem. With a heavy infestation, some trees will break down due to strong wind, snow, or ice at weak spots. High population of this insect can reduce growth, attract a variety of fungus that will further deteriorate the decay of the stem. Woodpeckers eating larvae will further enlarge holes and speed up the decay of the wood. It rarely kills trees.

Symptoms

There are several symptoms to recognize that trees are under the attack of this insect:

- Wet orange/brown colour oozing sap with a fine frass at an entrance hole is the best way to recognize the symptom of this insect

- Sawdust on the ground close to the trunk is another significant symptom

Swollen bark area shows signs of larvae in the tree

Management

There are several management options for the control of the poplar borer:

- Avoid planting too many Swedish aspen and Towering poplar on your property. There are several other columnar tree species that you can plant with a much longer life span and a better resistance to insects and diseases
- If you have a one tree with a heavy infestation – remove it and burn it
- Many native insect predators and enemies of this insect will keep this species in checks, but you must encourage the diversity of trees and shrubs species in your property

There are a very few chemical and biological products to successfully control this insect



Images 1 and 2 by Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service



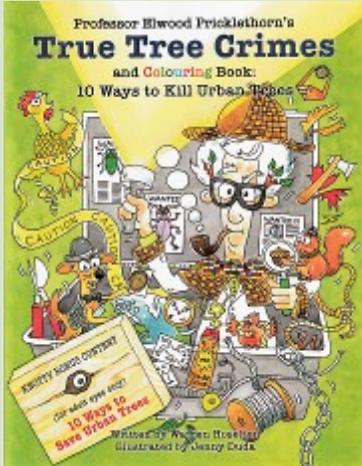
Images 3 and 4 by Toso Bozic



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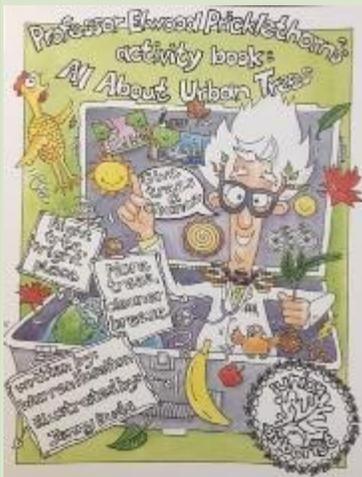
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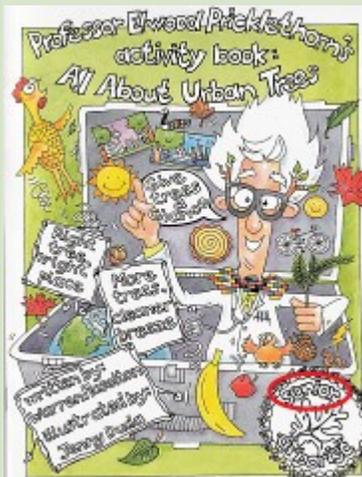
True Tree Crimes - Adult Colouring Book



All About Urban Trees Junior - Activity book for kids 5-8

All About Urban Trees Senior - Activity book for kids 8-11

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By Kevin Chase, Ph.D. Entomologist

Once again, I want to highlight the importance of scale insect *programs*. I have discussed the importance of dormant oils (and the insecticidal soap product M-Pede at tech update!) being an important part of a scale program. Now I want to discuss some tools I recently tested for scrubbing scales off of trees:



From left to right. ShieldPro drill brush, Unger grout scrubber, Chore Boy copper scrubber, Scotch-Brite dobie scrubber, Non-Scratch plastic scrubbing pads

In the image above, I show my favorite tools from left to right. I found that the Shieldpro drill brush attached to a hand drill was both the most effective at removing scales, the fastest at doing so and caused the least fatigue.

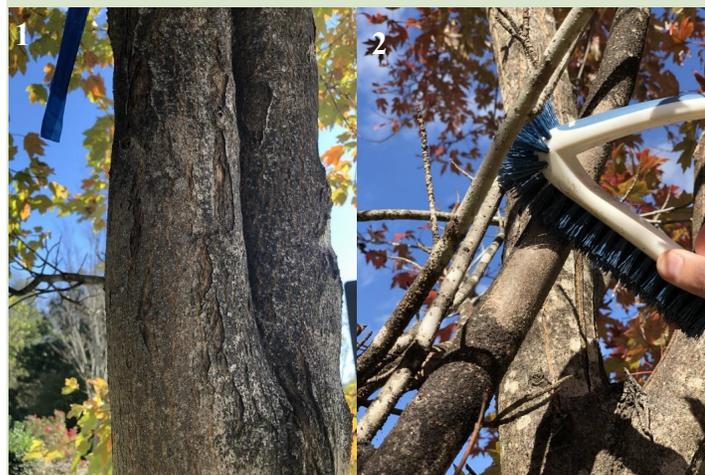


Figure 1: Gloomy scales removed (gray area) by Shieldpro drill brush on red maple.

Figure 2: Grout brush removing gloomy scale covers.

I also found that the grout scrubber was extremely effective, fast, and protected my hand from damage due to the design. I was worried the thick bristles from the grout brush might damage the thin red maple bark, but no damage occurred even when applying force (this may not be the case in spring when new bark is more

sensitive).

As can be seen in the image below and left (Figure 1), scale covers are easily removed.

The copper scrubber was very effective at removing scale covers, even in hard-to-reach cracks and crevices, but the copper material quickly wore down. This may be a great tool to have for those hard to reach spots that the above two tools could not reach.

The last two scrubbers are both plastic based materials. They worked OK but quickly wore down, got caught in the smallest snag and didn't hold up very well. It should also be noted that these tools were able to remove sooty mold from tulip tree scale infested trees. Scale insects rely on their covers for both protection from natural elements and from predators. By removing their shells, they will very likely desiccate, succumb to



external temperatures or be preyed upon. Using a scale scrubber as part of your program, along with dormant treatments, chemical treatments, beneficial releases and fixing cultural issues should absolutely be considered! This tool is not for every tree or every situation, but I fully believe this method has its place in an IPM program.



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www.agr.gc.ca/shelterbelt

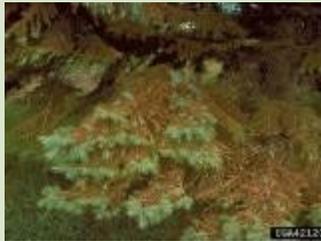
Hosts:

Spruce

Distribution and Disease Cycle:

Rhizosphaera needlecast is a fungal disease affecting mainly Colorado spruce, and occasionally other spruce. The disease begins in the lower portion of the tree with infected needles being shed, causing branches to look sparse.

Spore dispersal from infected needles occurs during wet weather in spring, spreading by rain from needles infected the previous season to newly emerging needles. Under suitable conditions, the disease gradually progresses up the tree continuing to cause loss of needles, leading to eventual decline of trees.



University of Minnesota

Symptoms and signs:

Symptoms of Rhizosphaera needlecast appear in the spring following infection, with infected inner (2nd year) needles turning yellow, then purplish-brown by end of summer, with black fruiting bodies appearing in lines as they emerge from needles' stomatal pores. Most infect-

ed needles will be shed by fall, although some may remain attached, acting as an infection source the following spring. Repeated infections will cause trees to begin having a sparse looking interior and after 3-4 years of severe infection, branches may begin to die.

Control:

Management of Rhizosphaera needlecast can be difficult. To reduce the spread of Rhizosphaera needlecast, avoid pruning or shearing trees during wet weather and sterilize pruning tools frequently by dipping in 70% alcohol for 3 minutes.

Remove any severely infected branches and rake fallen needles from the base of trees where practical. Promote

good air circulation and encourage rapid drying of foliage by mowing weeds or other vegetation near trees.

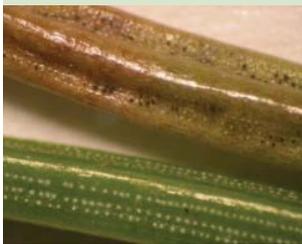


Photo credit: Michael Kangas, NDSU - North Dakota Forest Service, Bugwood.org

Chemical controls registered for Rhizosphaera needlecast control include fungicides containing chlorothalonil. Apply as per label instructions beginning in spring when new shoot growth is 1 to 5 cm in length, and again several times at 3-4 week intervals until conditions no longer favour disease development.

Alberta - Spring 2021 Schedule

Tree Insect & Disease Management
Red Deer - April 7 - 9

Chainsaw Safety & Cutting Techniques
Edmonton - May 13
Calgary - May 18

Technical Tree Felling & Cutting
Calgary - May 20 - 21

Tree Pruning
Edmonton - May 14
Calgary - May 19

Modern Tree Climbing Systems
Calgary - June 14 - 17

Emergency Readiness & High Angle Rescue
Calgary - June 17 - 18

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Have Fun - Learn Faster - Retain More



By Toso Bozic P.Ag

bozict@telus.net

www.yardwhispers.ca or www.attsgroup.ca

Planting trees along roads and driveways requires an additional consideration due to potential salt damages and injuries that will occur during their lifetime. Trees affected by salt will have a stunted appearance and reduced growth, as well as many will succumb due to higher doses of salt in soil or on trees themselves. It is very important to plan ahead and plant trees that are best suited to handle higher amounts of salt that they can be exposed. You must understand biology, growth, and site requirements for each species planted along roads or driveways.



It is crucial to plant more salt-tolerant species along roads and driveways as they will protect less salt-tolerant species from salt damage. Less winter-hardy plants are more susceptible to salt injuries. If you plant trees along very busy roads, start with salt-tolerant shrubs as the first line of defense; following salt-tolerant trees and further away the trees that are at least salt-tolerant. Little planning ahead will save you a lot of headache down the road and will allow you to have a long-lasting shelterbelt/trees around your property.

It is important to keep in mind that all species of plants, shrubs, and trees are affected by salt; some are able to tolerate greater salt levels than others, but it will still affect them. There is NO tree or shrub suitable for high and extremely high saline soils or in areas where annual road de-icing or dust control will accumulate high levels of salt in soil. Some of the trees and shrub species that can tolerate high salt environments can be **very invasive**, and it is crucial to check with local authorities if you can plant some of these very invasive shrubs and trees on your property.



Trees and shrubs rated for their salt tolerance:

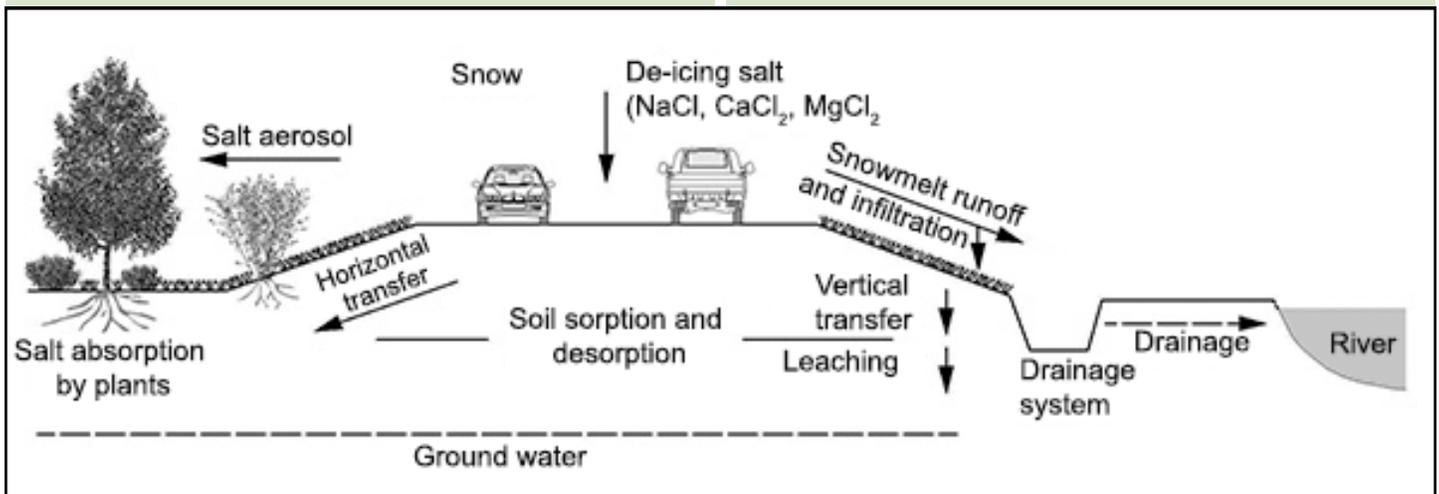
High salt tolerance: Silver buffaloberry and Sea buckthorn, Russian olive, Rocky Mountain juniper, and Austrian pine

Medium salt tolerance: Caragana, Spreading juniper, Snowberry, Villosa lilac, Hawthorn, Chokecherry, Mountain Ash, Ponderosa pine, Green ash, Manitoba maple, Siberian elms, Laurel leaf willow, and some apples

Low salt tolerance: Raspberry, Rose, Dogwood, winged euonymus, Spirea, Colorado blue spruce, Douglas fir, balsam fir, Cottonwood, Aspen, Birch, Little-leaved linden, and Larch



Diagram is from the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL)





The New Hitch Climber Eccentric is an evolution of the classic Triple Attachment Pulley that became widely known as the 'Hitch Climber'.

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Dutch Elm Disease Isolated detection in Alberta

Government of Alberta September 2020



Detection and response

In July 2020, the City of Lethbridge had two Elm trees with Dutch Elm Disease (DED) like symptoms tested at the Agriculture and Forestry's Alberta Plant Health Lab (APHL). Diagnostic testing revealed the presence of *Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*, a fungal pathogen that causes DED. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) confirmed the detection.

The trees were immediately removed and buried by City of Lethbridge staff. Those staff are actively surveying elms trees for DED symptoms in the area where the diseased elms were found, checking elm bark beetle traps and looking for elm firewood.

This detection is considered an isolated case at this time, and eradication was successful. A collaborative effort between the City of Lethbridge, Agriculture and Forestry, the Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease (STOPDED), and CFIA helped ensure a timely response to this pest threat.



Fabio Stergulc, Università di Udine, Bugwood.org

5383056

Alberta has had one previous detection of DED in the Wainwright in 1998. This tree was also immediately removed and disposed of. Additional monitoring for the beetles, intensive surveillance of elms and checking for elm firewood was done in the town for three years after that incident.

Alberta's DED-free status

Alberta has the largest stand of DED-free elms in North America. In 2017, the provincial American elm inventory was updated and demonstrated that there are at least 600,000 elms growing in Alberta municipalities, rural

properties, shelterbelts and provincial parks. These elms are valued at over \$2 billion. Valuations are made according to the standards developed by the Council of Tree and Landscapes (CTLA) and is used by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).

Regulatory status

Both pathogens that cause DED, *Ophiostoma ulmi* and *Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*, are regulated under Alberta's Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation, part of the *Agricultural Pests Act* (APA). The European elm bark beetle, *Scolytus multistriatus*, and the Native elm bark beetle, *Hylurgopinus rufipes*, are also both regulated pests.

Both of the pathogens are also regulated under the federal *Plant Protection Act*.

Inspector authority

As part of the APA, municipalities must appoint inspectors. Under Section 10, the local authority of a municipality shall appoint a sufficient number of inspectors to carry out the APA and its regulations within the municipality.

For the purposes of checking trees or elm firewood, Section 17 of the APA stipulates that "land" does not include a private dwelling.

An inspector may, for the purpose of carrying out the inspector's duties:

- Enter at any reasonable hour on any land to inspect the land or any buildings, property or livestock on the land
- Take specimens of a pest or nuisance and of any matter or thing that contains or is suspected of containing a pest or nuisance

Some municipalities have DED bylaws in place. In Alberta, municipalities can appoint bylaw enforcement officers under the authority of section 555 and 556 of the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA). Community peace officers can only enforce provincial acts and regulations, including the APA. A community peace officer is not authorized to enforce municipal bylaws unless they are also appointed under the authority of the MGA, or if the specific bylaw states it can be enforced by a community peace officer working for that municipality.

Reminder: Pruning Ban

Do not prune elms between April 1 and September 30. The beetles are active during this time and will be attracted to the scent of fresh tree cuts, possibly infecting a healthy tree. Provincial DED prevention and control measures are in place that can be enforced under the APA, which includes the elm pruning ban and not storing elm fire wood.



For everything we know about Critical Root Zones, Tree Protection Zones, tree protection during construction, tree health, tree decay, tree structure and what keeps trees upright, how can this kind of blatant disregard for public safety, protection of personal property and good urban forestry practices still go on? I don't know.

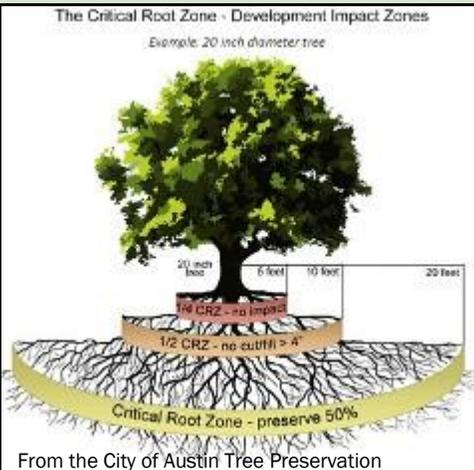
These trees will not show the damage from this construction, right away. They will live on stored carbohydrates for at least one season and maybe longer before the damage begins to show in the canopy.

Be assured, the damage will definitely show up eventually, when the crown begins to die back from the root loss. We trust that the deadwood will be removed in a timely manner before it falls on people and their property but, its not always possible.

What about the rips and tears of the structural roots? When will the decay from that, reach the main trunk and compromise the safety of the whole tree; a tree that is tall enough to damage the adjacent house, if it tips over? I don't know. It can't be predicted accurately.

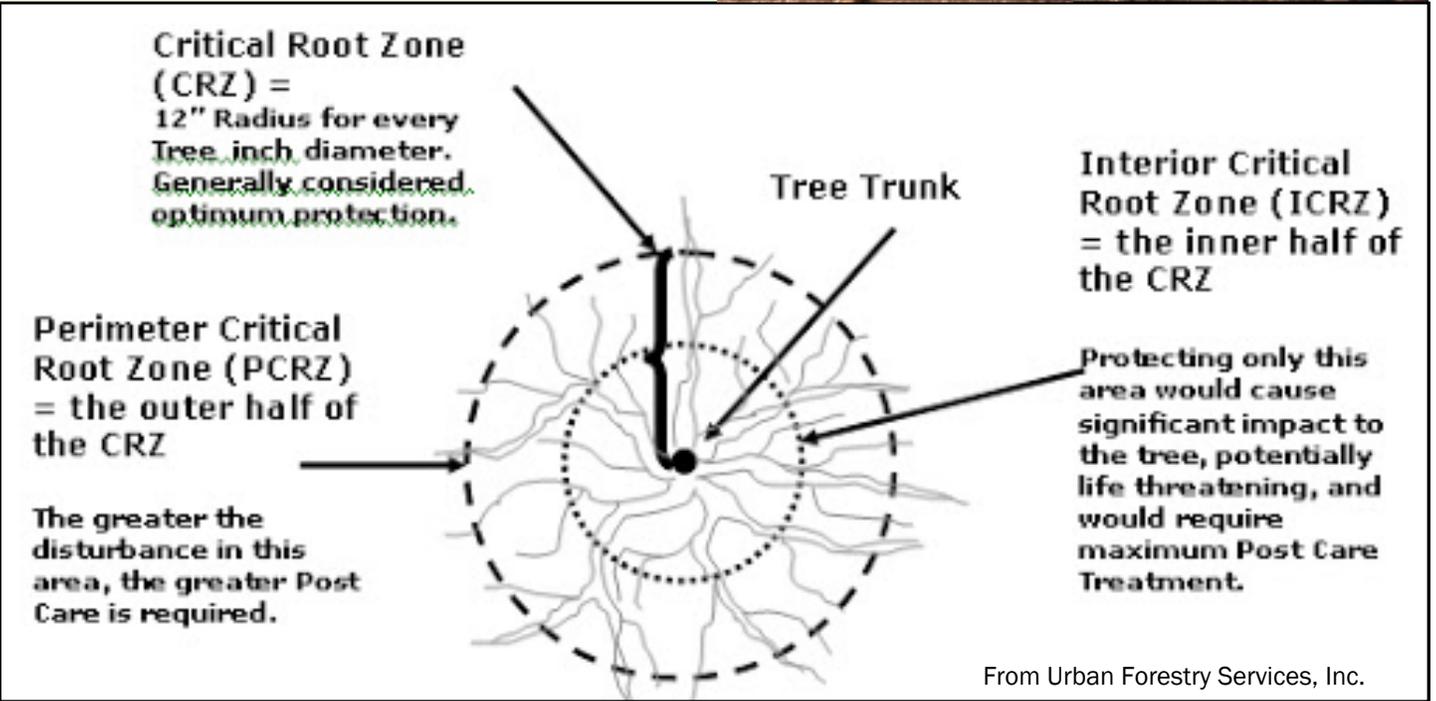
be liable for the damage to people and their property by authorizing grey infrastructure, rehabilitation work, to be done in this manner?

Is it shameful? Is it irresponsible? Is it negligent? Is the municipality responsible? Im no lawyer but case law seems to suggest that yes, they are responsible. Now, and into the future.

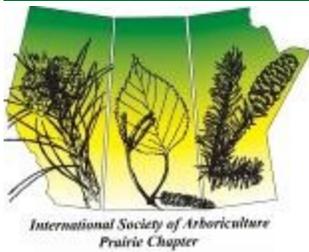


With all the structural roots removed from the west side, within one foot of the trunk, how long before a summer storm tips these over towards the east and damages personal property. I don't know that either. It could happen.

Why would a municipality want to



From Urban Forestry Services, Inc.



International Society of Arboriculture – Prairie Chapter

C/O Keith Anderson, Executive Director Box 757 North Battleford SK S9A 2Y9

Ph: 1-866-550-7464 (toll-free) Fax: 1-866-651-8423

office@isaprairie.com www.isaprairie.com

PRAIRIE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2021

Please provide new and current contact information in the space below.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Ph: _____ Bus Ph: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Certified Arborist Yes No

Method of Payment: Cheque (Payable to ISA Prairie Chapter) MasterCard Visa

Card # _____ Exp: _____ Name on Card: _____

FOR STUDENT MEMBERS ONLY:

I verify that _____
will continue during 2021 as a Full Time Student
in arboriculture, or supporting allied fields at a
recognized educational institution.

Signature of Faculty Advisor

MUST BE SIGNED BY ALL MEMBERS: I hereby agree to abide by the
ISA Code of Ethics for Arborists in all matters relating to technical
arboricultural activities, business operations and civic responsibility,
furthermore, I will also conduct myself as to improve the status of
Arboriculture as a respected industry professional.

ISA Code of Ethics can be viewed at: <https://www.isa-arbor.com/code-of-ethics>

2021 Membership Dues

Dues are for the calendar year: January 1 thru December 31, 2021, and not pro-rated for any portion thereof.
All prices below are in Canadian funds. There is no GST payable on membership dues.

Prairie Chapter Only:	\$ 125.00
Senior (62+):	\$ 75.00
Student:	\$ 15.00
Sustaining Membership (Corporate)	\$ 600.00

I would like a paper copy of the newsletter. Check Here \$ 30.00

Total _____

Sustaining Membership (Chapter): A Sustaining Membership allows Companies and Corporations an opportunity to promote their business, and show colleagues, clients, and other consumers that you support our industry at an elevated level. Sustaining members are recognized in the newsletter, on the website. They receive one voting membership as well as member rates for four representatives to attend the annual ISA Prairie Chapter conference and other Chapter sponsored workshops (other than the TCC and TRAQ), also receive member rates on books and other learning materials.

Note: If you would like to have your information added to our “Hire a Certified Arborist” page on the ISA Prairie Chapter website, please contact the ISA Prairie Chapter Office. You must have a current ISA Prairie Chapter membership and be an ISA Certified Arborist in order to be listed

For the International ISA Full Membership (Professional or Individual), Student Membership, Senior Membership, or Patron Membership please go to : <https://www.isa-arbor.com/Membership/Renew-Membership>

ISA Prairie Chapter Executive

PRESIDENT

Bonnie Fermanuik
Edmonton AB
587-985-8027
bfermanuik@ymail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Toni Marie Newsham
Didsbury, Alberta
403.415.5709
tmn200@gmail.com

SECRETARY TREASURER

Jean Mathieu Daoust
403-861-6013
jdaoust@bartlett.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Keith Anderson
Phone 1-866-550-7464
Fax 1-866-651-8423
office@isaprairie.com

CERTIFICATION LIAISONS

Charlene Scott
cscott2@oldscollege.ca

Keith Anderson

Provincial Directors

ALBERTA

Peter LaRue
Vegreville AB
780-603-5317
peter@laruetree.com

SASKATCHEWAN

Derek Barr
Regina SK.
306-545-2462.
derek.barr@gov.sk.ca

MANITOBA

Matt Vinet
Winnipeg, MB
204-471-8640
mvinet@greendrop.com

DIRECTOR AT LARGE - Alberta

Jacqueline Butler
Beaumont AB
(780)906-3823
jacqueline.butler@edmonton.ca

EDITOR

Keith Anderson
Box 757
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Y9
866-550-7464
office@isaprairie.com

ISA Prairie Chapter Office

Suite 53 - 1500, 14 St. S.W. Calgary AB T3C 1C9
Phone 1-866-550-7464 Fax 1-866-651-8423 office@isaprairie.com
www.isaprairie.com

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December	November 30

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Submit articles, ads, letters and written requests to:

Keith Anderson

Editor, The Prairie Arborist

Box 757

North Battleford, Sask. S9A 2Y9

Phone: 866-550-7464

e-mail: keithmcand2934@gmail.com or office@isaprairie.com

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Photo by Keith Anderson