

# Take Good Care Of Trees; They Add Value and Beauty To Home

By The National Arborist Association

Take care of the trees on your property for they will yield much pleasure and comfort. If "Only God can make a tree," we at least can nourish and protect it with proper care.

Here are some rules for tree maintenance:

1. Pruning—Most trees require periodical pruning in order to keep their shape. Dead limbs and branches also need to be removed. Small trees that can be reached

by standing on the ground, or possibly on a stepladder, may be pruned safely by the home owner.

Pruning of large trees is dangerous, however, and is not recommended. Call in a local tree expert. A reliable tree expert always will have insurance that protects his employees while working on your property. And he will have the proper tools.

2. Spraying—A regular spraying program is advisable. For practical purposes, insect pests can be divided into two groups: Chewing insects that eat the foliage or fruits and sucking insects which pierce the outer skin of foliage or fruit and suck out the juices. The former are controlled by spraying insect stomach poisons, and the latter by insecticides which kill insects on contact.

3. Fertilization—Many home owners are apt to feed their fruit trees, but neglect shade trees. They need added food as much as the former, especially where grass is mowed around them and the clippings removed.

The fertilizer should contain nitrogen, phosphorous and potash, with 6 to 10 per cent soluble nitrogen. It should be applied at the rate of five pounds for each inch of the tree trunk diameter at breast height. Fertilizer should be supplied to the whole root area.

Application is best when a series of holes are bored into the soil about 18 inches apart and filled with fertilizer. Soil augurs are useful tools for the purpose, though many tree experts use air or electric power tools.



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