

TREE-talk

EARLY SPRING

Seasonal News

from **CONSERV-A-TREE**



Preserving a More Beautiful Long Island since 1972

Scale Insects Invade Local Trees

It's Spring and the usually healthy looking trees in your yard and neighborhood are not showing their normal flush of Spring growth. Instead, bark may be peeling off some trees and many leaves seem to be drying up while small limbs are falling off even though there haven't been any significantly windy days. A closer look at the underside of some of the leaves on these sick trees may disclose a cottony like substance forming clumpy balls. (see picture right). These cottony patches are the protective covering for the leaf eating nymphs of several 'scale insects' that have invaded Long Island in recent years.

Arborists have been noticing more and more signs of this insect invasion on Long Island. In addition to the cottony substance, the undersides of leaves and

the trunks of trees might show a dark coating of black sooty mold that grows on the honeydew (droppings) of the insects. Though they are unlikely to kill a mature plant the insects responsible for this damage are turning many beautiful trees and shrubs into homely replicas of themselves. The good news is that there is a way to control their spread and feeding action.

A Conserv-a-Tree Scale Insect Control Plan can suppress the scale insect's development. It begins with an April-March Dormant Oil Spray applied to smother the egg masses that produces the young, sucking form of the insect. Follow up treatments are suggested depending on the severity of the problem. Contact us to

get on our dormant oil spraying schedule now so an application can be made at an effective time to begin controlling these pests.



Repairing drought and heat damage from 2010

PRUNING & FERTILIZING

Last summers heat and drought damaged many of our trees and shrubs. Two good things you can do for your plants to help them regain some of their natural vigor are pruning and fertilizing.

Pruning

As a tree grows, it must be pruned and shaped. Beautiful and healthy trees need pruning to remove weak, diseased, broken or dead branches. Thinning is also necessary so the sun can reach all the leaves for the manufacturing of food.

Damaged trees need special attention. Repairing a damaged tree requires the knowledge and experience of a Conserv-A-Tree professional. Conserv-A-Tree is your tree pruning specialist.

Dying trees or trees damaged beyond repair may need to be removed. We have the perfect equipment for all

manner of tree removal.

Fertilizing

"WE ARE WHAT WE EAT", and so too are our trees. Deep root feeding at the proper time can stimulate healthy growth and produce the kind of rich foliage that delights the eye and provides shade on those hot summer days.


Our exclusively formulated, balanced liquid fertilizer is applied by injection to maximize nutrient absorption by the smallest tree roots under the plant canopy



Call 631-271-2998

visit our website at
www.conserv-a-tree.com

email: conatree@aol.com

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