

Sperry Tree Care

NEWSLETTER

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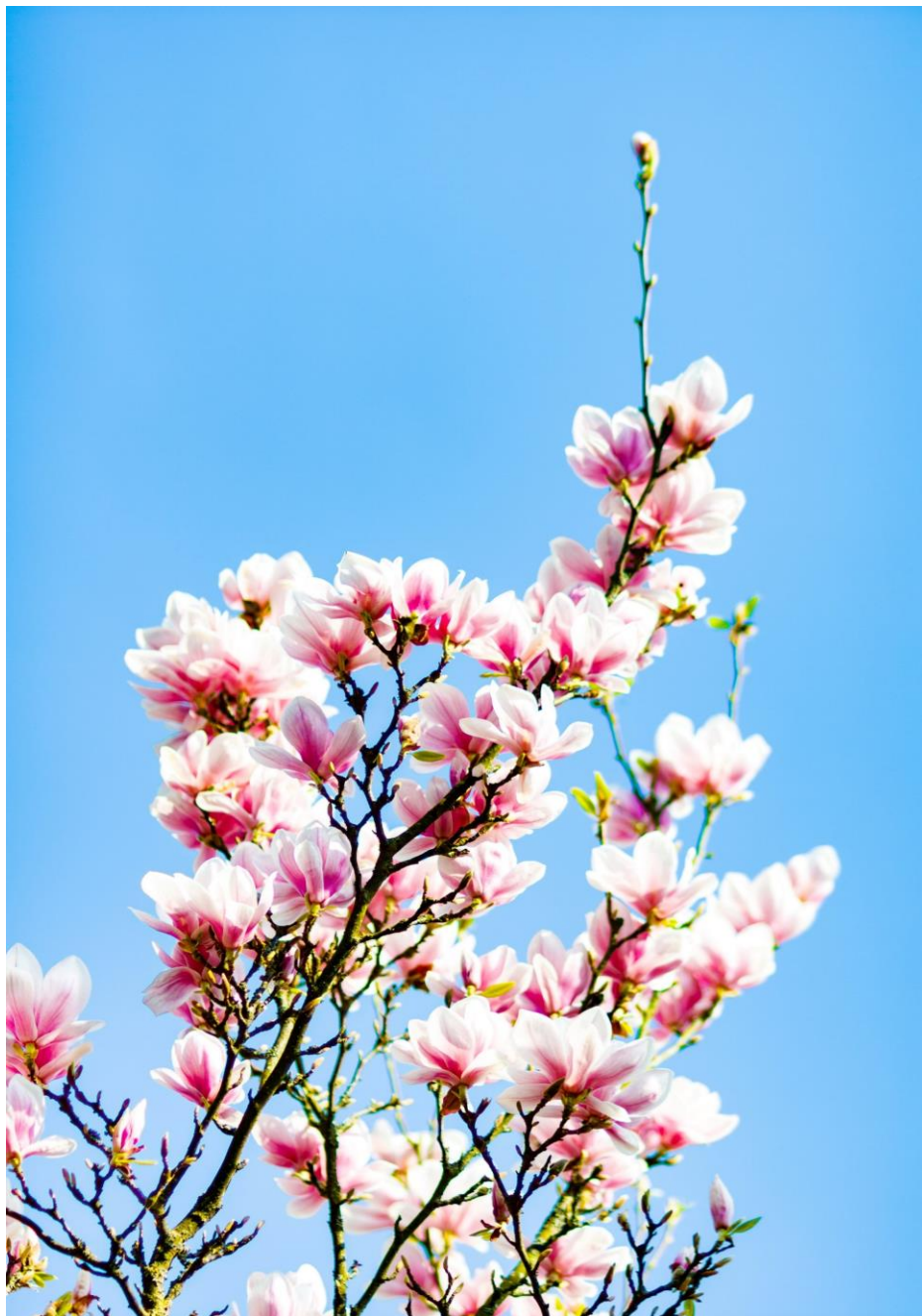
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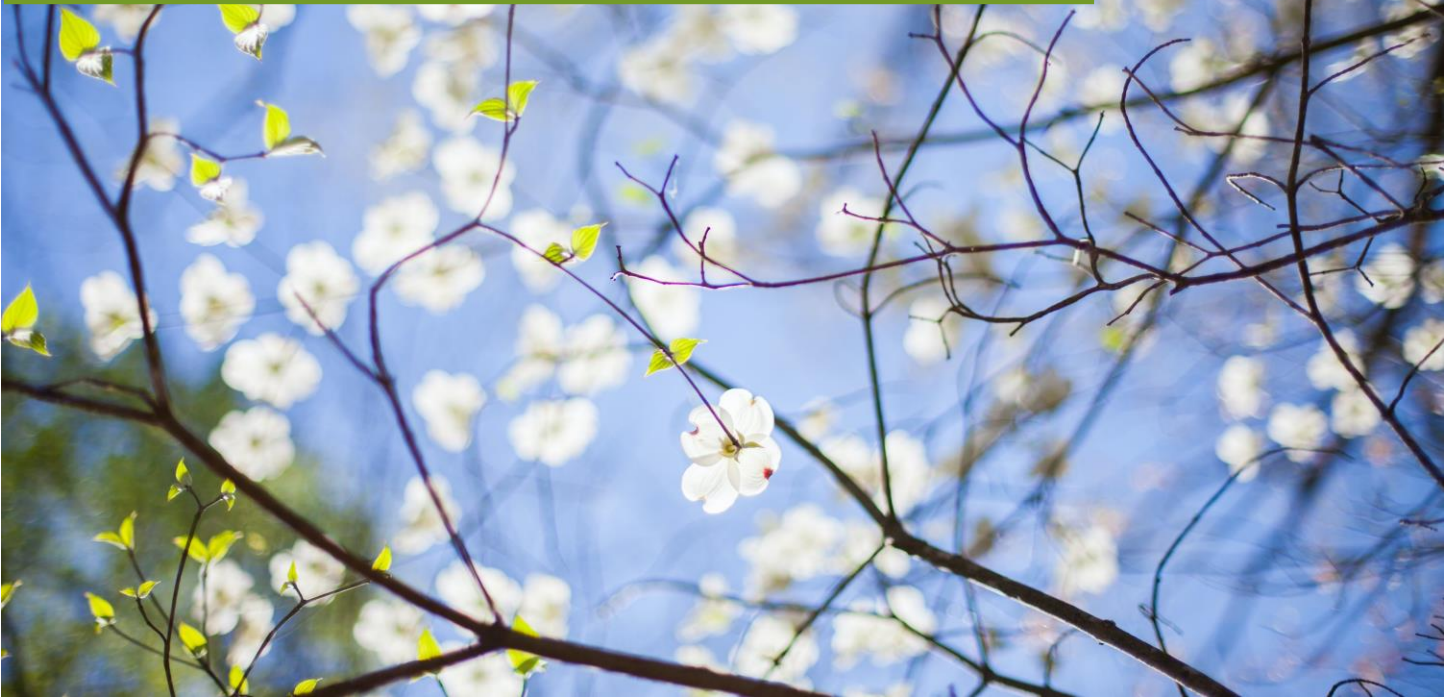


Spring
2022

WELCOME TO OUR SPRING NEWSLETTER!

We all eagerly await the arrival of spring weather. Some of us have been peering out our windows for weeks waiting for the weather to warm up enough to begin spring cleaning the yard. If that describes you, we have some great tips for you on page 2. April also ushers in Arbor Week in Oregon; an opportunity to raise awareness of the many benefits of trees. Increasing the tree canopy in urban areas can lower energy bills, increase property values and provide much needed shade from summer heat. If you have space to add another tree, our team of arborists can help you to choose the right tree for your unique needs.

Spring To-Do's



SPRING CLEANING YOUR YARD

The spring cleaning that you do in your yard sets the stage for the season of fun with friends and family that lies ahead. Here are a few plant-related tips to help you get started:

- **Remove fallen leaves, branches and other dead plant material to prepare for new, healthy growth**
- **Consider fertilizing plants and trees if needed; we recommend organic options.**
- **Place fresh mulch around trees (be sure not to pile it up around the trunk)**
- **Have your trees and shrubs pruned to remove unwanted growth and any dead material from winter**
- **Thoroughly weed planting beds and add 2-4 inches of mulch to help prevent weeds from returning**
- **Trim back any plant material that may be impeding walkways**
- **Remove dead trees and stumps to make way for new plantings**



SCHEDULE A SPRING INSPECTION WITH AN ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST

If it has been more than 12-months since your trees were last inspected by a professional ISA Certified Arborist, we recommend scheduling a spring inspection.

ISA Certified Arborists are trained and educated to help maintain tree health. Their education includes tree biology, diagnosis, maintenance practices, and safety. Certified arborists are also required to continue their education every year in order to maintain their certification.



Your trees are a valuable part of your landscape and properly caring for them is a worthwhile investment. When you work with a certified arborist you are choosing experienced professionals who are committed to care that is in the best interest of your tree. If trees are not properly pruned you may find yourself with an eyesore until new growth happens, or damage severe enough to shorten the life of the tree, eventually forcing its removal.

During an estimate/inspection visit, our team of certified arborists will evaluate the health of your trees and determine the best course

of action for your unique situation. Should the tree be pruned to allow light into the yard or to improve a view? Are there dead limbs that should be removed to avoid potential damage should they fall? Perhaps the tree has a crack and is in danger of splitting. Can it be cabled or is the best course of action to remove it entirely? A certified arborist will be able to help answer these questions.

Sperry Tree Care currently has 10 ISA Certified Arborists on staff; 2 are also ASCA Registered Consulting Arborists.

Interested in a 50-minute walk-through your yard with an arborist followed by a written tree inventory and future care plan? Ask about our Residential Property Consultation.

Newsletter
Subscriber
Savings

SPERRY TREE CARE CO.

7% OFF

7% off pruning accepted by June 30, 2022.
May not be combined with other offers. Code: SPRG22

Tree in the Spotlight



PAPERBARK MAPLE (ACER GRISEUM)



The **Paperbark Maple** is an unusual and elegant tree native of Central China, seen naturally in elevations between 1,000 and 2,000'. Its name comes from the reddish bark that exfoliates in paper thin rolls giving the tree a striking appearance even in the dead of winter. Unlike most Maples, its leaves are compound and show three separate leaflets attached to a fuzzy stem, often confusing people who expect the typical maple leaf shape. Actually, if the leaflets are brought together closer, the Maple leaf shape can be seen.

Pros

- Unusual
- Very attractive bark & form
- Beautiful Fall Color
- Fairly drought tolerant
- Medium-sized tree well suited for yard or under power lines

Cons

- Slow growing compared to other medium-sized Maples
- Not easy to cultivate; therefore, expensive in large sizes

Leaf It to Us

AIR SPADING

As Arborists, we inspect trees and some assignments require a closer look which requires climbing into the canopy to get a closer view of the leaves and branches. We can look at different parts from the trunk all the way down to ground level. The inspection often stops there simply because we can't see under the ground, unless of course, we start digging.

One of the most important parts of a tree is the root system; a connection to the soil where water and nutrients can be found and assimilated to feed the tree and serve as an anchor for stability. Digging around the root system can lead to problems since the roots are easily damaged by shovels or pick axes or any type of heavy machinery. The need to preserve the root system of a tree, or at least find out where it is and expands to, led to the invention of a clever tool called an Air Spade® .

Imagine a 5ft. wand with a trigger and an open tip of 1 inch in diameter connected to an air compressor. You pull the trigger slowly and compressed air is blasted into the soil rapidly displacing it and allowing soil removal without the damage to the roots the blade of a backhoe or axe would do. The Air Spade® is used not only to help find the extent of a root system prior to excavation for a building, for example, but also to help install underground utilities (under the roots), remove excess soil or mulch accumulation against the trunk flare and perform root crown excavations to inspect root health, possible decay or issues involving problematic roots seen circling around the trunk and girdling it.



We also have noticed that it is a wonderful tool to help with the far too often occurring problem of compacted soils. Soils can be very quickly compacted by either vehicle traffic over the root zone or foot traffic as well as heavy rain on bare ground. All that pressure on the soil will reduce what we call the macro-pores of the soil and greatly reduce the intake of water and nutrients while also blocking the natural gas exchange between the areas below grade (rhizosphere) and above grade (atmosphere).

In this case, the Air Spade® is inserted into the soil vertically in a repetitive motion that allows the fracturing of the soil and the re-opening of the macro-pores. This technique is applied from the trunk to slightly over the dripline and/or in the areas where the soil has been most compacted. If a layer of compost has been spread before the work, the Air Spade® helps incorporate the compost into the soil and inoculate it via a technique called “vertimulching”. We have noticed great benefits to trees treated this way.

Finally, the Air Spade® is a fantastic tool to transplant trees. The common belief is that trees that are to be transplanted need a very large and heavy root ball. What needs to be large is the number of roots that are dug out, not the amount of soil that is attached to them. By using the pneumatic tool the Air Spade®, a very large amount of root can be safely exposed and sectioned at the dripline making the operation much healthier for the tree. By creating a root mass that is much lighter to move we greatly increase the odds of survival for the tree. Sperry Tree Care has operated an Air Spade® since 1999, giving us the experience needed to help your trees using this innovative approach.

We offer **FREE** estimate appointments.

Call our office or request an appointment online at sperrytreecare.com.



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