

# Sperry Tree Care

NEWSLETTER

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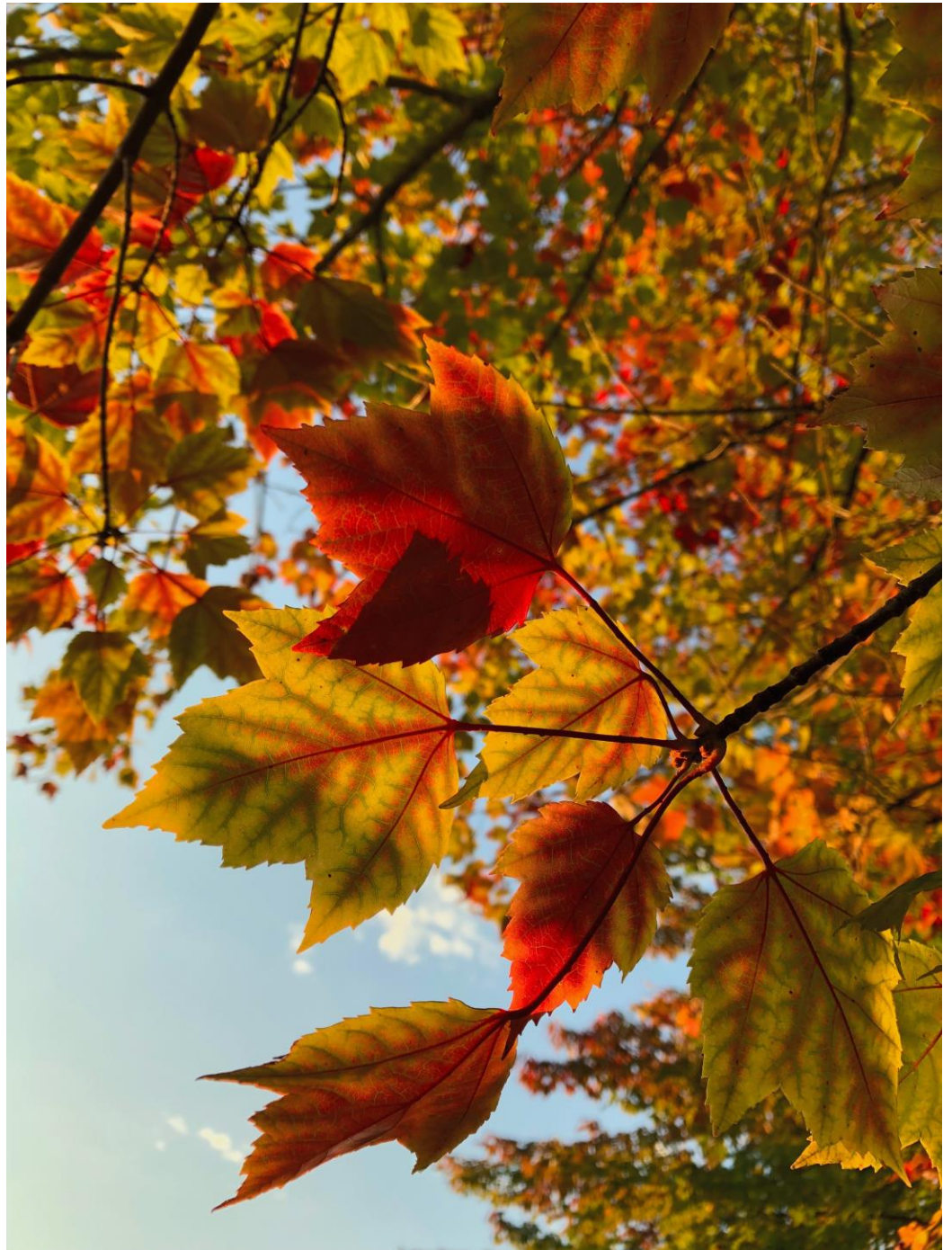
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Leaf It to Us



Autumn  
2022

### WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN NEWSLETTER!

For many, Autumn is the best season of the year and they eagerly anticipate its arrival. It is a favorite for us also, when the colors of the leaves turn and mornings greet us with a crispness that announces the changing of the seasons. It's also a busy time of year as we try to finish our summer projects and think about buttoning up our homes and yards for winter. Inside we are ready for candles, warm blankets and soup for dinner. Outside, it's time to prepare the yard for the winter ahead. We have some great tips and tricks to help you and your trees prepare for the dormant season.



# Autumn Tips & Tricks



## LEAVE THE LEAVES WHERE THEY LAND

Our arborists care about your trees, and the foundation for healthy trees is good soil. This is why our arborists recommend leaving leaves on the ground rather than raking them up and disposing of them. When the leaves fall from deciduous trees, they create a natural blanket that helps to insulate the ground while providing shelter for beneficial insects. As the leaves break down over the winter, they release nutrients that will feed next year's lawn or plants and improve the overall soil biology in your yard. This works best when the leaves are not piled too thick. Mowing over large leaves to reduce their surface area will aid in their transformation to beneficial compost. Small leaves will transform without too much help and by spring will be nearly gone without much intervention.

## MANAGE YOUR MULCH

Now is the time to freshen up the mulch around your trees. Organic mulch such as ground-up leaves, weed-free straw or wood chips will help to maintain soil temperatures, conserve soil moisture and provide resilience against erosion. We recommend 1-3 inches of mulch at the base of trees, but be sure not to pile the mulch up against the trunk of the tree. This is sometimes referred to as volcano mulching which can cause rotting bark, creating an access point for insects and diseases.



## CABLES & BRACES: CHECK

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If you have a tree with additional supports installed such as cables or bracing, this is a good time to have those checked by a professional arborist. These support systems are intended to reduce the risk of failure or damage to weak branches and multiple stems. Severe weather can add additional stress, so you want to ensure that your support systems are fully in tact and performing before inclement weather occurs.

If you do not have supports installed but have concerns about limb integrity, v-crotch stems, over-extended limbs, cracks, splitting or any other structural issues that may cause an area of your tree to become weakened, we recommend having the tree checked by a professional arborist. Support systems can help to mitigate risks and protect the health and beauty of your tree.



## LEARN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S TREE EQUITY | PLANT A TREE

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Did you know that there's a website where you can find out the tree equity score for where you live, right down to your neighborhood? What is a tree equity score? The scores are based on how much tree canopy and surface temperature align with income, employment, race, age, health factors and more. Each score indicates whether there are enough trees in specific neighborhoods for everyone there to experience the benefits that tree canopy cover

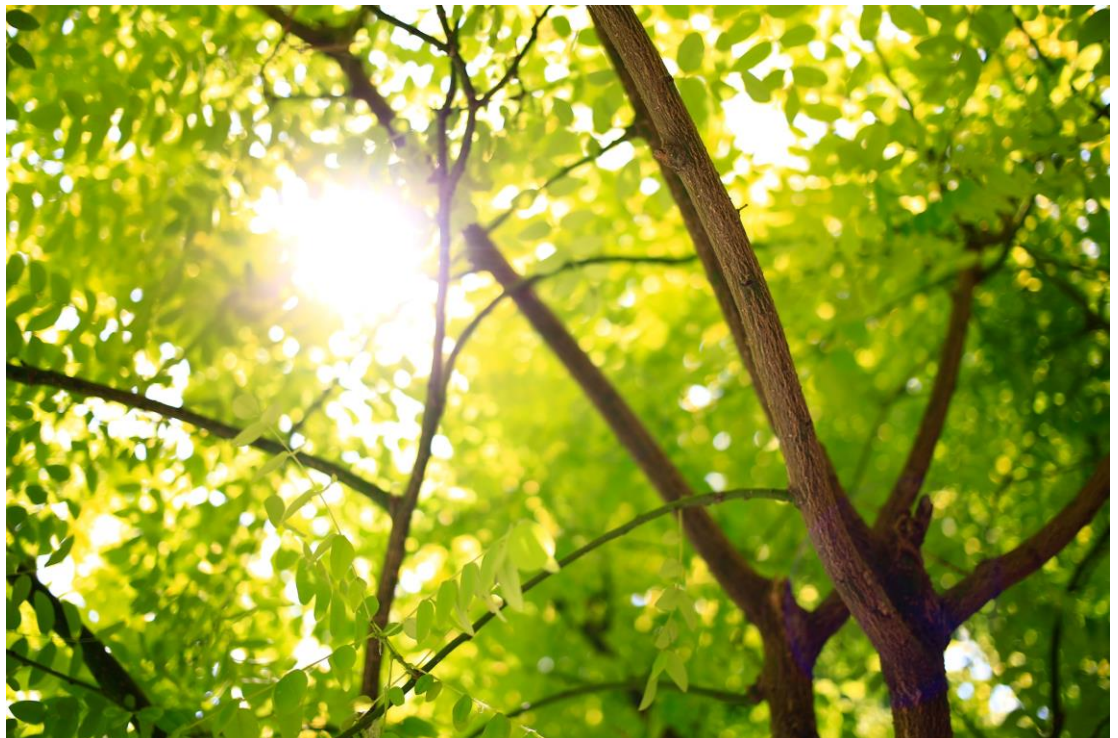
provides. You can use the score to make a case for planting trees in the areas that need them most. Want to know your tree equity score? Check it out at

[treeequityscore.org](https://treeequityscore.org).

Sperry Tree Care is committed to growing canopy cover one tree at a time. Selecting and planting trees is one of the most rewarding aspects of what we do.

Did you know that our

arborists can assist you in tree selection and we'll even do the planting for you! We know that choosing the right tree for the right location is essential and we are here to help. [Watch](#) Gritz & Erik explain the importance of choosing the right tree for the right location, and schedule an appointment for a tree selection consult today!





# Tree in the Spotlight



## PACIFIC MADRONE (*Arbutus Menziesii*)

The **Pacific Madrone** features reddish-brown bark that peels each summer in thin strips to reveal smooth, green-yellow bark that ripens into a dark red.

### Pros

- Native to the West coast
- Attractive bark and form
- Persistent broad-leaf foliage
- Excellent for pollinators & hummingbirds
- Excellent food source for migrating birds
- Well adapted to drought and climate change

### Cons

- Not readily available at nurseries
- Does not transplant well
- Susceptible to foliar fungal spots, blights & cankers
- Dead leaves do not decompose well
- Only fit for well-drained soils

Newsletter  
Subscriber  
Savings

**SPERRY TREE CARE CO.**

**5% OFF**

5% off pruning accepted by December 31, 2022.  
May not be combined with other offers. Code: AUT22

# Leaf It to Us

## WINTER SAFETY INSPECTION

We recommend an annual winter safety inspection on all your trees. Having your trees inspected in advance of wet winter weather gives you the opportunity to identify potential problems and hazards and address these issues before they cause significant problems. Preventative care protects the health of your trees and often saves money in the long run.

Things we look for during an inspection include:

- Dead, broken and hanging branches
- Cracks
- Co-dominant stems
- Excessive lean
- Hollows and cavities

An arborist will check the trees and provide a written estimate for any work that they recommend.

To learn more, [watch](#) this video with Registered Consulting Arborists Alby Thoumsin & Christopher White where they talk about what they look for during a winter safety inspection.



We offer **FREE** estimate appointments.

Call our office or request an appointment online at [sperrytreecare.com](http://sperrytreecare.com).



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CCB# 109012 | LCB# 100201

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