

# Sperry Tree Care

NEWSLETTER

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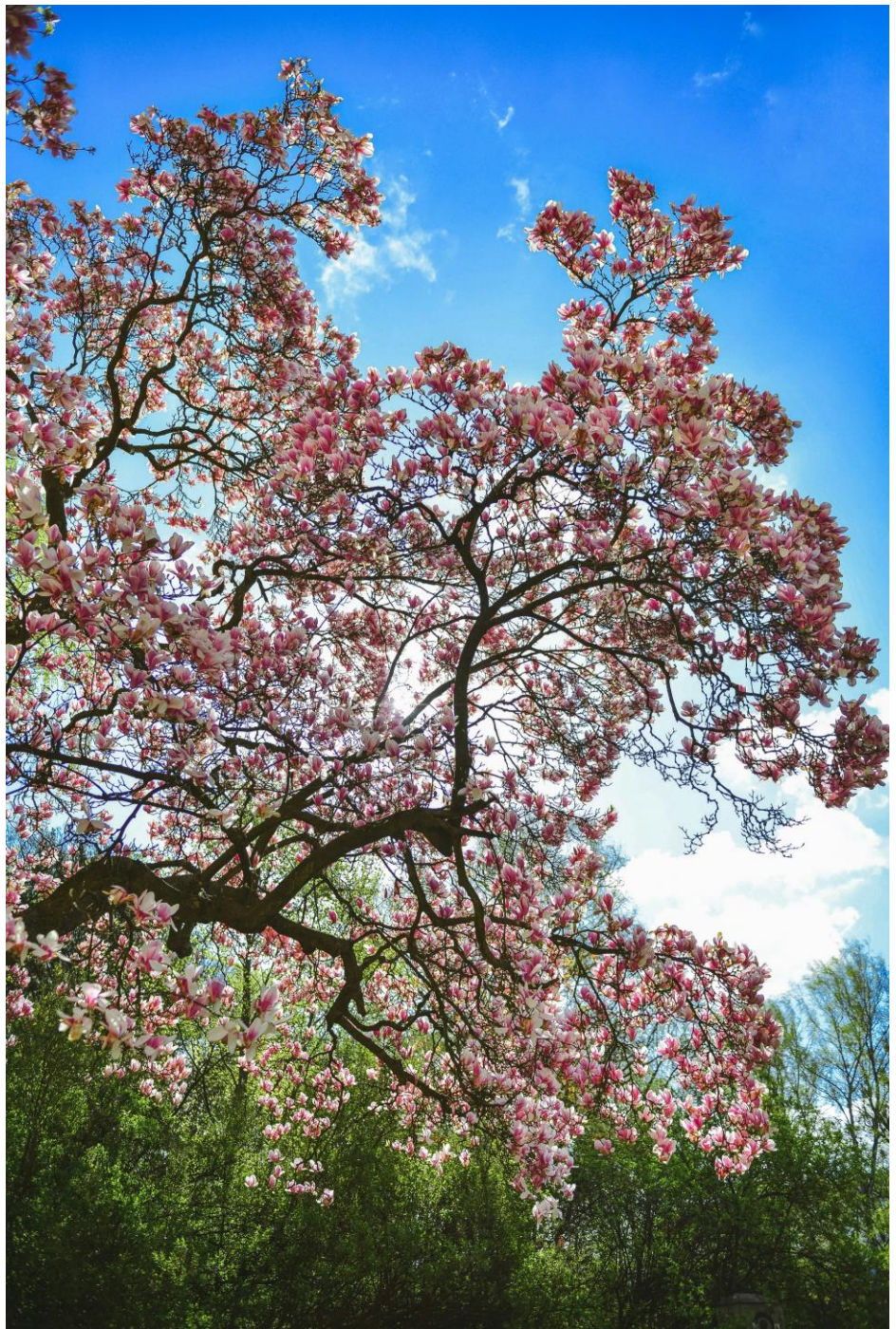
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25 Years of Excellence



SPRING  
2024

### WELCOME TO OUR SPRING NEWSLETTER!

Spring feels especially sweet this year following the ice storm we experienced in January. Most of the emergency level damage in our region has been addressed at this point, but there are still many storm-damaged trees that will benefit from restoration pruning. In this edition you will learn more about the benefits of that as well as the meaning of structural and crown lift pruning.



# Restoration Pruning



## RESTORATION PRUNING

The process of restoration can begin immediately following a storm. Restorative pruning generally includes removing broken branches and short torn stubs. Arborists will avoid removing long sections of live wood or making large pruning cuts on the trunk. The goal is to not severely alter the structure of the tree, but to reduce conditions that might contribute to weakness and further breakage.

Codominant stems (see below for more on this), for example, are an example of potentially weak structure. Restoration pruning will reduce sprouts and branches that compete with the leader, resulting in greater strength and resiliency. When there is no codominant structure sprouts are desirable. These sprouts will become the new crown and allow the tree to build back up its energy reserves. Restoration pruning will encourage these sprouts to form a strong replacement crown, though it may take several years.

Because the new sprouts are replacing those destroyed by the storm, encouraging the desired sprout position and orientation is important. Repeated pruning over several seasons allows you to guide and encourage branch position and direct future growth.

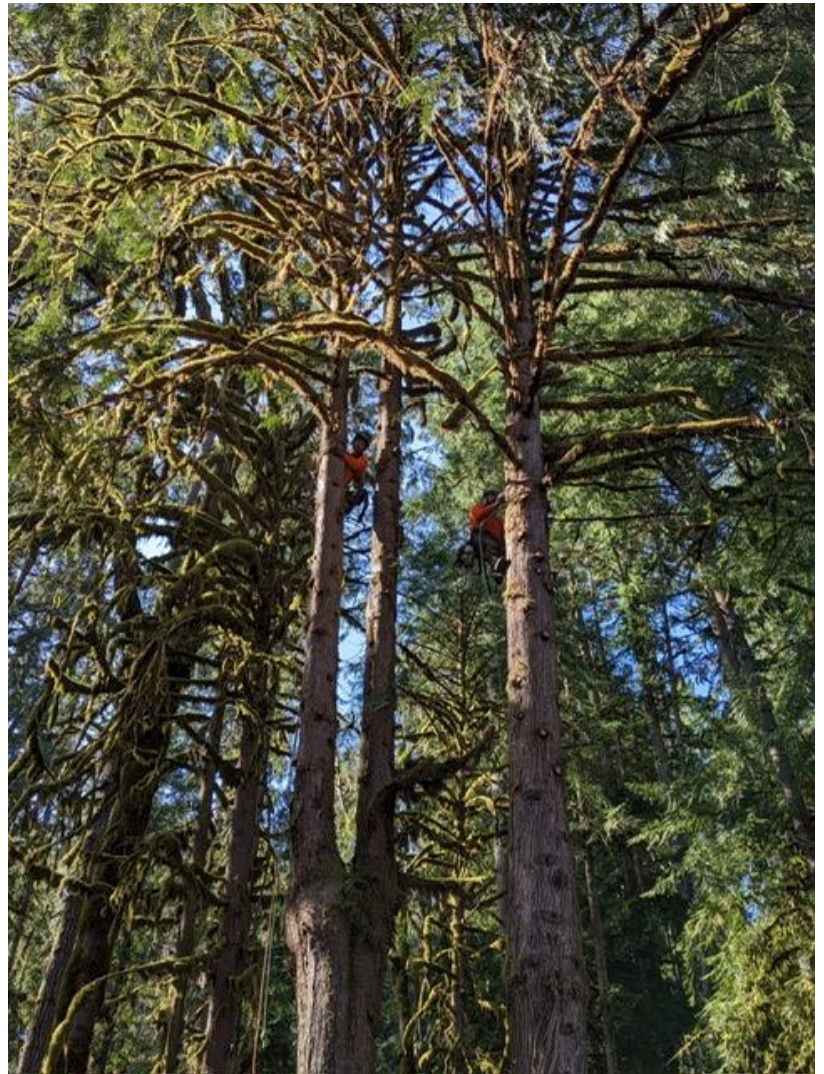
# Tree Structure

## CODOMINANT STEMS

The term codominant stem is used to describe 2 or more main stems on a tree that emerge from the same location on the same trunk. This typically creates a V-shape where they diverge and a potential weakness during high wind or inclement weather events. The “twin” leaders are typically similar in size and are seen frequently on Maple and Oak trees. If noticed early while trees are still young, corrective pruning can be done encourage a single strong leader. If it is too late to correct the structural issue with pruning a support system can be installed to provide additional strength along with load reduction pruning. Talk to your arborist for more information about this option.

## LEADER

The leader is the central stem of the tree. If you follow the line of the trunk up to the very top of the tree you will generally see it narrow into a single stem that forms the center top of the tree. This is the leader. It is sometimes referred to as the ‘dominant upright stem’.





# Tree in the Spotlight



## SERBIAN SPRUCE (*Picea omorika*)

The **Serbian Spruce** is a highly adaptable spruce that can thrive in full sun or partial shade. This tree is highly regarded as graceful and beautiful, and will tolerate a variety of soil types.

### Pros

- Unusual and uncommon tree
- Beautiful bluish/green foliage with semi-soft small needles
- Narrow form, well suited for small spaces
- Very nice, small purple hanging cones
- Drought tolerant once established

### Cons

- Might require a special order if not stock
- Although narrow in shape, it will reach 5- to 60 ft tall



# Leaf It to Us

## TCIA ACCREDITATION

Sperry is proud to have 10 ISA Certified Arborists on staff. These individuals have demonstrated their tree knowledge and have a minimum of 3 years of industry experience.

We are also pleased to tell you that Sperry Tree Care, as an organization, is accredited by TCIA. Accreditation was a year-long process that ultimately recognized our excellence amongst tree care companies across the country. It is much more than a feather in our cap. It demonstrates to our clients that we have:

- Best business practices
- Documented safety and training programs
- Maintain commercial and workers comp insurance
- Adherence to ethical business practices
- Tree care that meets the highest industry standards
- One or more Certified Tree Care Safety Professionals on staff

Our accreditation means that you can be assured that your work is being performed by professionals that comply with industry standards for safety and performance.

Sperry Tree Care is the only Tree Care Industry Association accredited company in Lane County.



# 25 Years of Excellence

## ALBY THOUMSIN

Join us in congratulating Alby Thoumsin on 25 years with Sperry Tree Care.



Over the last 25 years he has visited thousands of Lane County residents, sharing his arboricultural knowledge and passion for trees. Alby has developed lasting relationships with people and trees alike.

His extensive experience, along with being an ISA Certified Arborist and an ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist, has made him a highly sought after consulting professional in our region.

Alby generously teaches others in the industry, always eager to share his knowledge and help grow the level of professionalism in our company and the industry at large.

If you have the pleasure of meeting Alby, be sure to ask him about his passion project, Flutestock. This annual festival of Native American-style flute playing will take place in July at Springfield's Island Park.

We offer **FREE** estimate appointments.

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



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