

## Collier Arbor Care Honored for Recycling

Clackamas' Collier Arbor Care has been recognized by Clackamas County with a Distinguished Business Recycling Awards Group (BRAG) membership certificate and recycled glass plaque from the Clackamas County Recycle at Work Program.



The distinguished BRAG award

Distinguished BRAG memberships go to high-achieving Clackamas County area businesses that recycle all curbside materials regularly, prevent waste with at least six ongoing activities, consistently buy recycled paper and other recycled products and demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement.

Collier Arbor Care has gone well beyond recycling curbside materials, and it works with local suppliers to purchase recycled-content office supplies. It also recycles all tree and shrub debris and reuses packaging materials.

Recently, the company replaced its sales staff trucks with Volkswagens powered by biodiesel, which helps the firm reduce its carbon footprint. In addition, all chemical containers are triple-rinsed and Collier employees are working with a local agricultural recycler to recycle the containers along with empty fertilizer bags, shrink wrap, and other sheet film from packaging.

"This firm really stands out in its willingness to go the extra mile in recycling both at the office and out in the field.. Collier came to me to find out if there was more they could do," said Waste Reduction Specialist Shannon Martin of Clackamas County's Office of Sustainability.

"This is something we have felt really strongly about for the last 20 years," said Collier President Terrill Collier. "Since we're in the 'green' business, we need to be a leader in sustainability."

Martin pointed out that the firm has been a leader in organic-based plant and tree care and that reducing its office waste stream is "another nice twist in that it also helps save trees, the thing they care most about because of the nature of their business."

## We're Here to Help

Collier Arbor Care is here to assist you with your tree, shrub and lawn care needs. If you would like more information on any of our services listed below, please give us a call or visit our website for valuable plant information.

Plant Health Care Programs  
Targeted Insect & Disease Treatments  
Pruning Trees & Shrubs  
Tree Removal & Stump Grinding  
Organic-based Lawn Care

Tree & Shrub Fertilization  
Soil Treatments  
Hazard Tree Analysis  
Landscape Weed Control  
Consulting & Diagnosis

503-722-7267 (503-72ARBOR)  
www.collierarbor.com



# Garden Calendar

See our website at [www.collierarbor.com](http://www.collierarbor.com) for a 12 month calendar!

## July

- Early morning is the best time to water gardens and lawns. Water deeply and infrequently.
- Treat for root weevil adults when new feeding damage (notching) is present on foliage.\*
- Treat for scale insects emerging from eggs as crawlers. Sticky honeydew and black sooty mold are signs of scale infestation. Look for scale on camellias, holly, maple and rhododendron.\*
- Watch for signs of spider mites on arborvitae hedges and spruces. **Look for:** dusty-looking foliage, loss of green color, and presence of tiny mites. A good preventative is to hose off your plants with water on a weekly basis. Treat with soap or oil when damage is noticed.\*

## August

- Make compost of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled.
- Control yellow jackets and wasps with traps and lures or by treating nests.\*
- Fall webworm webbing appears in ornamentals and shade trees, prune out nests and destroy, or, if necessary, treat.\*
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals don't dry out.

## September

- Apply parasitic nematodes to soil beneath rhododendrons and azaleas affected by root weevils.\*
- Plant lawns until October 15 in western Oregon.
- Treat lawn weeds now; aerate.\*
- Have our certified arborists recommend ways to storm-proof your trees.\*

## October

- Recycle disease-free plant material and kitchen vegetable scraps into compost.
- Good time to plant new trees and shrubs or transplant existing ones.
- Apply preventative weed control in landscape beds, pull or treat existing weeds.\*
- Take care of soil drainage needs of lawns and landscape needs before rain begins.
- Treat stone fruit trees to prevent various fungus and bacterial diseases.\*
- Clean and oil tools and equipment before storing for winter.
- Plant spring flowering bulbs like crocus, daffodils and tulips.

\* Services performed by Collier Arbor Care

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# THE Arbor Advisor

Your Prescription for a Healthy Landscape

SUMMER 2008

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Brilliant Redbud "forest pansy" foliage

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**COLLIER ARBOR CARE**  
Environmentally Friendly... Since 1937

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# Summer Pruning Tips

Our rainy spring has slowed down the gardening, but has provided great growing conditions for luxuriant plant growth. Looking around the garden, however, we see that the jungle needs taming. Summer is the best time for pruning many of your fruit, flowering and ornamental trees and shrubs. The bloom is complete and the new growth elongated as spring ends and summer (finally!) starts.

Flowering and ornamental trees and shrubs, such as rhododendrons, azaleas, dogwood, lilac, flowering cherry and plum, Japanese maple, small ornamental conifers, and hedges, just to name a few are best pruned after the spring flush of growth.



Certified Arborist, John Dale, shears a photinia hedge

## Benefits of summer pruning include:

- A dwarfing effect by removing vigorous spring growth on trees, shrubs and hedges keeps them smaller for longer periods of time.
- Shapes and opens up branch structure for better visual aesthetics.
- Prepares the tree or shrub for bloom set for the following year.

## When summer pruning you should:

- Crown clean the canopy by removing deadwood.
- Crown thin evenly the outer canopy to shape, remove crossing branches and allow light penetration to the interior, usually not more than 15 – 20 % annually.
- Crown Raise or Crown Reduce to provide clearance from buildings, streets and other obstacles in the landscape.
- Shear hedges back to last year's cuts to maintain size, appearance and density of the hedge.

To find out how to manage your over grown plants give us a call. Our certified arborists have the expertise, skill, and proper equipment to efficiently prune your plants the safe and proper way. Your trees will love us!



Certified Arborist, Brian French, specimen pruning a Japanese Maple



## Featured Tree: Eastern Redbud *Cercis canadensis*

Redbud is a lovely small tree that is valued for its rosy to purple blossoms that appear in the early spring before the leaves. The blooms are pea shaped and appear in profusion on bare twigs and branches in March here in the Pacific Northwest. The most common species in our area is the eastern redbud native to eastern U.S. It grows to 20 to 30 feet tall and wide in a round headed spreading form. The attractive rounded heart shaped leaves turn a beautiful yellow color in the fall.

Redbuds grow in sun and partial shade in deep moist loamy soils. They need summer water but will not tolerate wet conditions nor will they stand drought. Redbuds are susceptible to Verticillium wilt so don't plant them in areas where a maple has died of that disease.

Attractive graceful small tree, redbuds are effective when planted as a single specimen or are especially nice in woodland or naturalized settings. Several good cultivars exist such as 'alba' a white flowered form. 'Forest pansy' is a handsome purple leaf type, a perfect alternative to the common (and overplanted) flowering plum. The foliage emerges as a shimmering red-purple then changing to a more subdued color as the season progresses.



Foliage (left) and blooms (right) of the Eastern Redbud

# Help Plants Recover from Wet Spring

Our wet spring has brought on a number of disease problems that manifest themselves in the summer. Diseases like: anthracnose on dogwoods, ash and sycamores; scab on fruiting and crab apples; blight on flowering cherries and photinia; Phytophthora root rot on cedars, dogwood, arborvitae and oak are rampant this year.

Expect that your plants may look worse before they get better. With some diseases like Phytophthora or Verticillium they may never recover and simply die. Proper diagnosis is the first step, so call a Collier Arbor Care certified arborist to troubleshoot.

As with many things in life, prevention is the key. Timely treatments, proper pruning and nutrition will all help to minimize problems and maintain plant health.



Flowering Cherry with Brown Blossom Blight



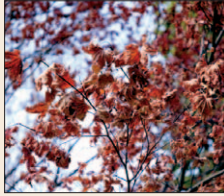
Port Orford Cedar with phytophthora

What are the steps we can take to help our plants recover from disease?

- **Prune out diseased plant parts.** Thin foliage to improve air circulation.
- **Apply a composted mulch** to improve soil.
- **Fertilize plants** this fall to improve plant vigor.
- **Apply compost tea** to improve soil health by adding beneficial organisms.
- **Mycorrhizae root treatments** to help improve feeder root development and aid in nutrient uptake.
- **Schedule a preventative treatment program** to prevent the disease next year. Many diseases require a fall dormant application as well as preventative disease treatments in the spring for optimum control.
- **Replant with resistant varieties.** Where a plant has died from a particular disease such as Verticillium don't replant with the same species or the new plant will get the same disease.



Dogwood with anthracnose



Maple with Verticillium wilt

# Pro Bono Work Lengthens Life of Salem's "Whip Tree"

A two-man crew of Certified Arborists from Collier Arbor Care made sure that Silverton's 154-year-old Riding Whip Tree will continue its long life as one of the State of Oregon's 45 official Heritage trees.

Currently owned by Jim Toeler at Geercrest farms, outside of Salem, the Black Cottonwood had been in poor health for some time before Collier's two-person crew did the pro-bono thinning of the tree's crown. There had been significant dieback in the crown and the tree had a history of large branch failure, so Collier's arborists used the firm's bucket truck to accomplish the large cuts needed in the crown.

"We stayed out of that tree because of the history of large branch failure. There have been weddings under this tree and I told Jim to keep people away from it until we'd had a chance to work on it because it wasn't safe. The cottonwood isn't normally a long-lived tree. This one is old for a cottonwood and a good example of the potential danger to people from hazard trees," said Collier Arbor Care President Terrill Collier, whose firm is among the oldest and largest in western Oregon.

The 90-foot-tree, which has a trunk circumference of 18 feet, grew after 15-year-old Florinda Geer stuck her black cottonwood riding switch into the ground after returning from a horse ride in 1854.

According to the Oregon Heritage Tree Program plaque at the tree, Florinda Geer married Timothy Davenport and in 1868 gave birth to Homer Davenport, a nationally famous political cartoonist, who spent many of his early years at the homestead.

The Daughters of the American Revolution memorialized the tree in 1936 and it became Marion County's first Heritage Tree in 1986. The Riding Whip Tree was dedicated as an Oregon Heritage Tree by the Heritage Tree Committee of the Oregon Travel Information Council in 2006.

Collier has been active in local and state heritage tree programs and his firm has done pro-bono work on Lake Oswego's Peg Tree and the 450-year-old Signature white oak at the Oregon Garden in Silverton.



Due to the history of large branch failure the cuts were done from the safety of a bucket truck