

TOPPING

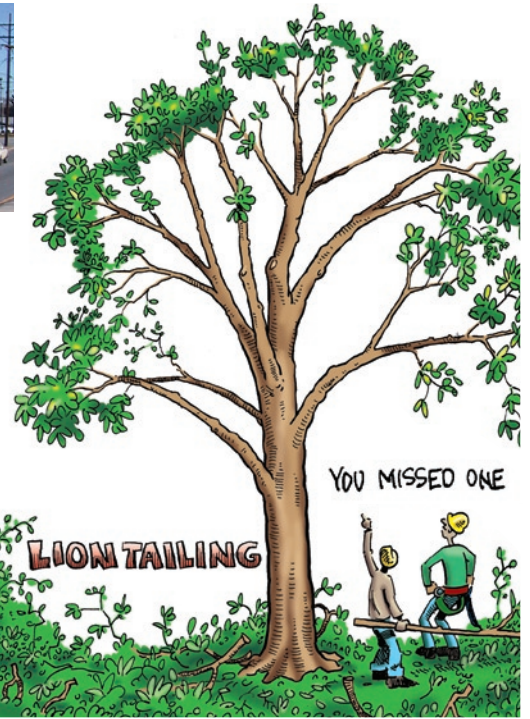


Topping does NOT (long term):

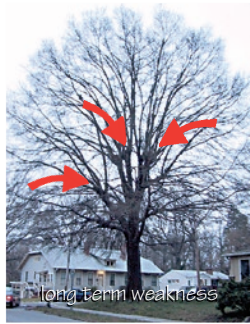
- Control a tree's height
- Produce stronger branches
- Reduce leaf production
- "Help" trees

Topping DOES:

- Produce more and weakly attached branches
- Increase leaf production
- Invite insects and harmful pathogens into heartwood
- Rob trees of stored energy
- Lead to sun scald
- Increase maintenance needs



Lion tailing causes accelerated tip and sprout growth, resulting in poor ice and wind resistance. Thinning tip growth is a better alternative for "sprucing up" a tree's canopy.

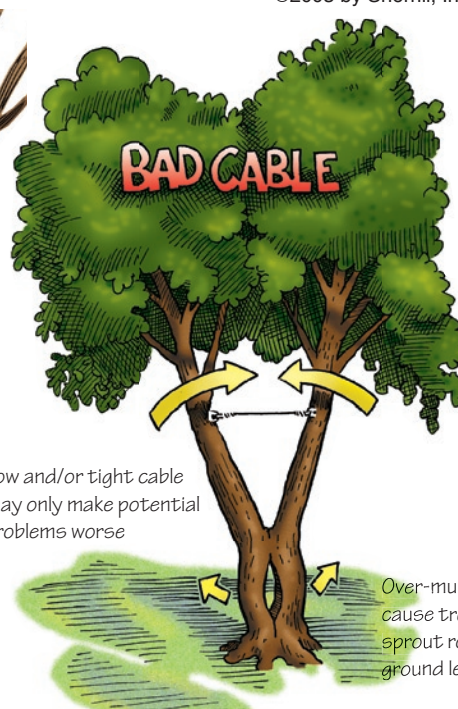
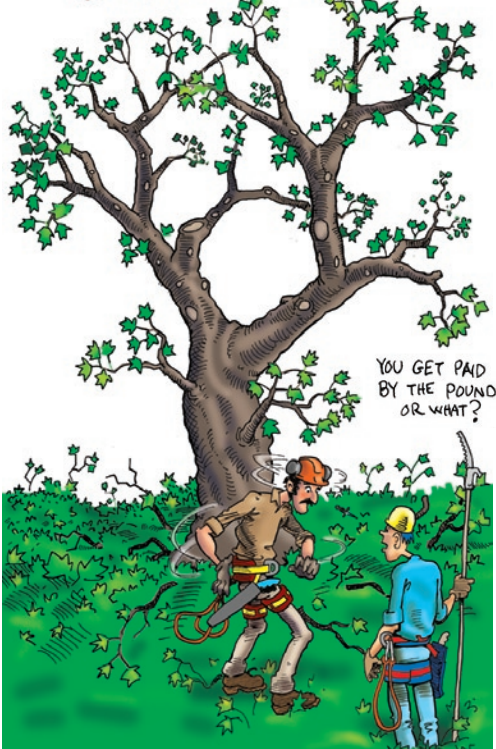


This message of proper practice is intended to help, not harm. Life, by definition, is wrought with mistakes and misconceptions that reasonable explanation and common sense can change. Feel free to use this information to help guide customers toward healthier trees.

WRONG

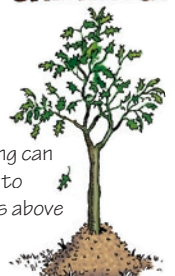
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OVER THINNING



Low and/or tight cable may only make potential problems worse

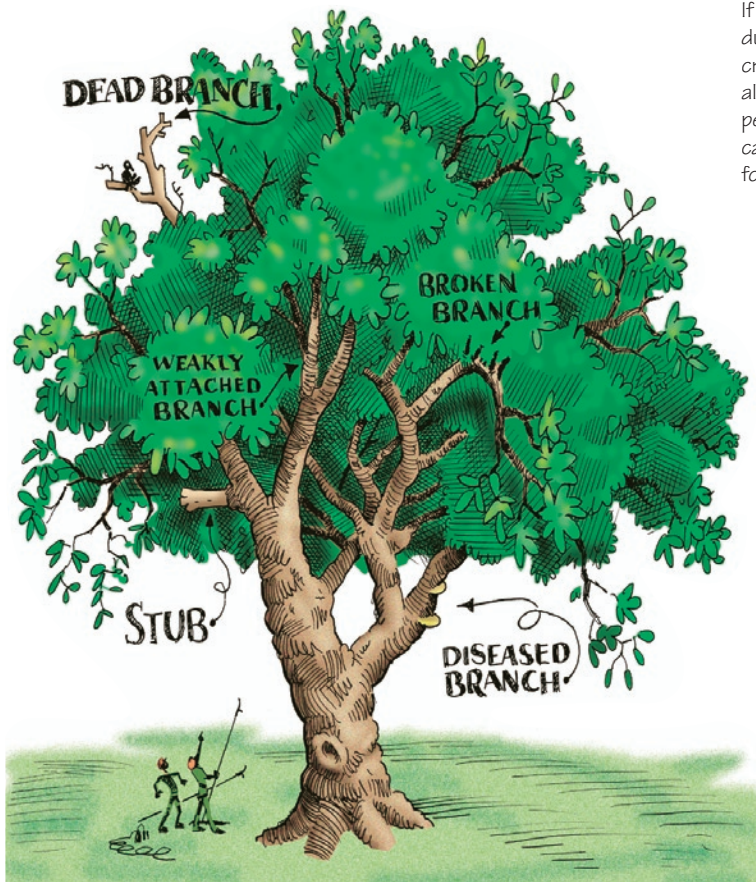
BAD MULCH



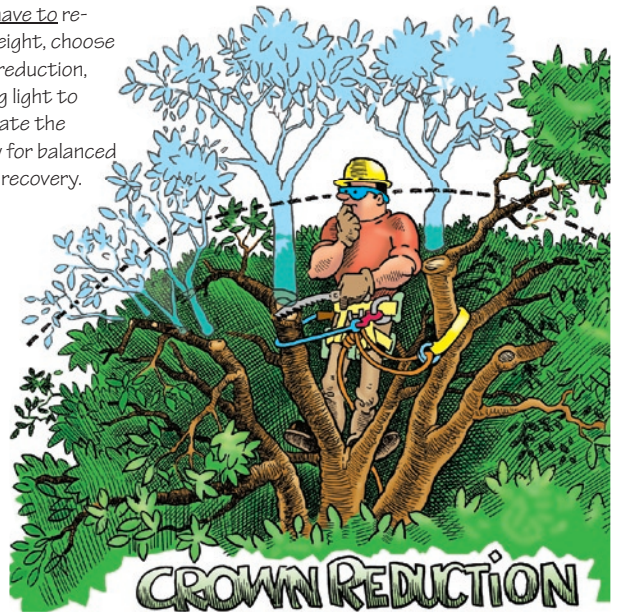
Over-mulching can cause trees to sprout roots above ground level.

Over thinning is an attempt to do too much at once, and often harms or kills trees.





If you have to reduce height, choose crown reduction, allowing light to penetrate the canopy for balanced foliage recovery.



The "rule of thirds" states that the remaining lateral branch should be no less than a third of the cut branch. Experts agree that trees should not be pruned in excess of 25% foliage loss. Lighter, periodic pruning is best!

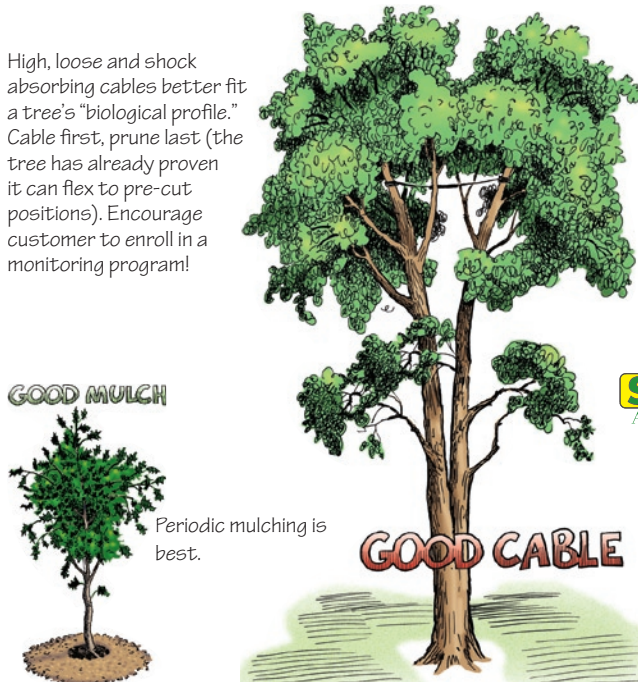


Properly maintained trees require little more than removal of crisscrossing, touching, and dead or dying branches.

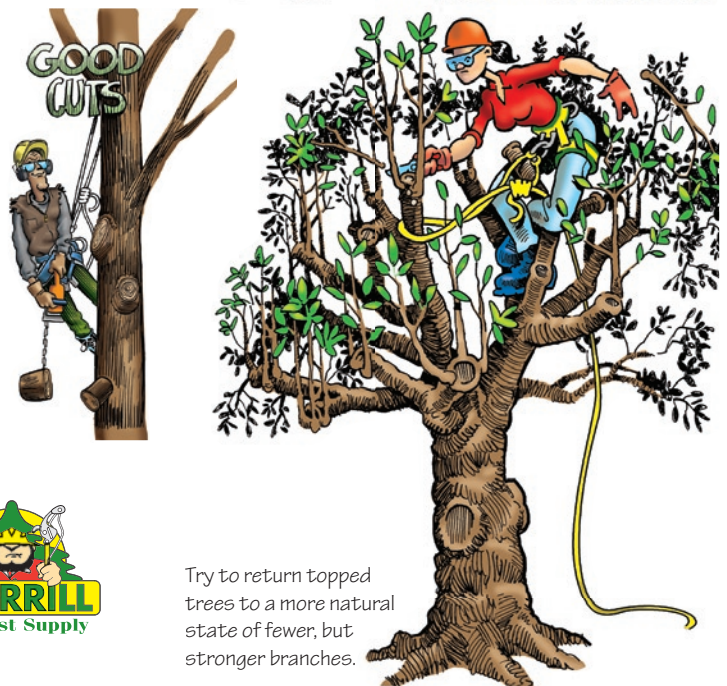
RIGHT

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High, loose and shock absorbing cables better fit a tree's "biological profile." Cable first, prune last (the tree has already proven it can flex to pre-cut positions). Encourage customer to enroll in a monitoring program!



CROWN RESTORATION



Try to return topped trees to a more natural state of fewer, but stronger branches.

