

Custom Tree Care, Inc.  
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# CUSTOM TREE TIMES

SUMMER 2009

## SERVICES

Tree Pruning  
Tree Removal  
Stump Grinding  
Tree Planting  
24 Hour Emergency Service



**We employ certified arborists by ISA & KAA**

**Licensed & Insured**

**Member of NE Kansas Better Business Bureau**

## PRUNING

I have written on many topics over the past three years and I thought it fitting that I should discuss pruning. It is probably the most common maintenance practice done to trees. It can have a positive impact if done properly and can have an adverse affect if done improperly. Pruning a tree is much more than just cutting a few low branches off because they were to low or touching the house. It is the systematic removal of branches throughout the canopy to improve the health, safety, and appearance of the tree.

Typically, when we quote pruning a tree we will go through the entire canopy and prune out the dead, rubbing, broken, and hanging limbs. We also will raise the crown of the tree and prune it away from overhead wires or any structure. It is also important not to prune to much. It is recommended not to remove more than 25% of the live foliage in one season. The leaves are how the tree makes its food and over pruning can stress the tree. Topping is not an accepted practice on trees. Often times we see improper pruning cuts which will take much longer to heal over and can cause rot and decay. Another improper practice is lions tailing, which is stripping off all of the interior limbs only to leave all the foliage at the ends of the branches. Your trees are an investment and improper pruning can lead to irreversible damage. So make sure you hire ISA certified arborists to care for your trees. Certified arborists are trained in proper pruning techniques and strive to make sure that your trees are in the best health possible.



*Pruning is best left to a trained professional such as an ISA Certified Arborist, not "Joe with the ladder"*

## **We made the 2009 INC. 500 LIST!!!**

I am pleased to announce that Custom Tree Care, Inc. has made the 2009 Inc. 500 list. This prestigious list measures a private companies revenue growth from 2005-2008. During the past four years we have experienced 809.1% growth which earned us spot #286. I am proud of this achievement and I thank you for your help in making this happen.

Some of the current projects we are working on in addition to our residential work is a line clearance contract in Brown and Doniphan Counties with three crews.

I apologize for last quarters newsletter. Somehow the Winter 2008 made its way to the printers instead of the Spring 2009. The correct Spring 2009 is available for viewing on our website, [www.customtreecare.org](http://www.customtreecare.org) under the history link.

Greg Gathers  
President