

Custom Tree Care, Inc.  
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# CUSTOM TREE TIMES

WINTER 2009-2010

## 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**

## WINTER INJURY ON TREES

This winter so far has set many new records for snowfall amounts and low temperatures. To be honest, I have had enough of old man winter and am looking forward to spring. Winter weather can have some negative effects on trees as well. The following are some common winter tree injuries that occur in our area;

**COLD TEMPERATURE:** Plants are frequently injured by low winter temperatures if they are planted in areas north of their hardiness zone. However, even hardy plants can be injured during unusually cold spells or when temperatures drop rapidly. Late spring and early fall frosts can injure metabolically active tissues that are insufficiently "hardened" to withstand the cold.

**SUNSCALD:** Another common winter injury is called, Sunscald. This happens when the sun warms tree bark during the day and then the bark rapidly cools after sunset. This may kill the inner bark, most commonly on the south or southwest side of the trees. Young and/or thin barked trees are most at risk. Wrapping with protective tree wrap may prevent this from occurring.

**FROST CRACK:** Frost cracks are splits in the bark or wood and result from rapid drops in temperature. They may be associated with internal defects resulting from previous injury to the trunk years prior to the splitting. Avoid wounding the bark of trees when they are young. Be especially careful when mowing or weed-eating. You can mulch around trees to eliminate the need for close mowing or trimming.

**SNOW & ICE BREAKAGE:** The weight of heavy snow or ice can damage tree limbs or even topple whole trees. This can be devastating to trees that still have their foliage early on in the season. Proper pruning will reduce the amount of snow and ice that will accumulate on the limbs and will eliminate weakly attached branches.



*Frost cracks are splits in the bark or wood of a tree resulting from rapid drops in temperature and may be associated with previous injury.*

## "READY SET, GROW"

That's the theme of the 2010 Kansas Garden Show. The dates are February 19-21st at the Kansas Expocentre. Please come enjoy the show and stop by our booth to say hello! Also on March 9th, Custom Tree Care, Inc. will be honored as the 2009 Existing Small Business of the Year for this region. There is an awards ceremony at the Lincoln House in Topeka from 3 to 5pm. Thank you for all your business to help make this award possible .

Currently, we have crews working in Galveston, TX removing trees that were killed by the saltwater storm surge of Hurricane Ike. This is the second time we have worked in Galveston. Following Ikes landfall in 2008, we had grapple truck crews hauling storm debris on the island. Custom Tree Care, Inc. was also awarded the City of Lawrence, KS Emergency Tree Trimming/ Removal contract for the second time. This contract will run through the end of 2012.

Please contact us for all your tree needs and please come see us at our upcoming events!!!

Greg Gathers  
President