

# Gruettville Gazette

*all the news that's fit to prune*

Why don't trees use the train?  
They can never decide on a ROOT!



**CALL A CERTIFIED  
TREE WHISPERER**

**(877) 447-8388**

## IT'S ABOUT THAT TIME...

Finally, the temperature is reaching optimal temperatures expected for Autumn. So, what can we do for our trees in the meantime as things generally slow down? Many things, but one important task that can be done is to prune and trim our trees, especially pines and conifers right now!

What are the benefits of trimming or pruning your trees? Good 'grooming' practices are highly beneficial for your trees; removal of dead limbs or cleaning up sections that are growing too fast can overall enhance the aesthetic of your tree, which is relatively important if you planted that tree specifically for its beauty! Pruning also helps your tree grow! All the dead wood that gets cleared up will promote healthier new growth! If you own a tree that produces fruit and are explicitly tending to it for its bountiful fruiting season, pruning encourages the growth of spurs which will produce fruit the following year! Lastly, pruning your trees also increases overall safety! Dead or structurally weakened branches may not be able to withstand harsh weather, such as strong gusts of wind. Because of this, inclement weather may be the tipping point where a compromised branch might fall and damage your car, property, and possibly even bodily harm!

Why is NOW the most important time to trim? Well to start, Autumn and Winter is when the growing season starts to taper off and trees prepare to 'hibernate'. What that means is that they are no longer trying to grow as much and invest more towards food storage and hardening themselves for the cooler weather. Because of this, pruning and trimming trees will have less detrimental effects on the tree because they won't be as stressed from the 'haircut' as they would in Summer where heat, drought, and pest infestations are more rampant!

Have a few trees you may be thinking on 'cleaning' up? Give us a call and we'll send out our Tree Care Specialist to give you a quote. Our trimmers are all trained according to ISA Best Practices Standards.





# CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY!

'Tis the season for Christmas Trees! If you are planning to bring in a Christmas Tree for the holidays, here are some important safety tips!

## PICK THE FRESHEST TREE!

Choose a fresh tree with green needles that don't fall off after being touched. Fresh trees are less likely to cause a fire hazard compared to an older cut tree. Once you have picked out your tree and placed it on its tree stand, make sure to add water daily!

## PLACEMENT IS KEY!

Make sure that your tree is at least three feet away from any heat source (fireplaces, radiators, candles, etc.). Make sure that your tree is also not blocking any entrances or exits.

## DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR DECORATIONS!

When hanging up lights for your tree, double-check the label for them; some lights are designed either only for indoor or outdoor use. Always make sure to turn off the lights on your tree before retiring for the night. If any section of your lights is malfunctioning, make sure to replace any part that seems to have been worn/broken as well as loose bulb connections.

Although Christmas Tree fires are not common, occurrences can be very serious. Protect yourself and your family this merry season! Happy holidays!

**\*\*CAUTION!\*\***



## LITTLE PINE TREE

In summertime  
My branches were a place  
For birds to nest,

In autumn  
My branches were their place  
For food and rest,

And now that wintertime is here,  
I hope to be all glistening  
Bright with snowflakes...  
The little birds' Christmas tree!

*Happy Holidays!*

**TIME 2  
TREAT YOUR  
PINES!**



We are licensed, insured professionals  
State Ca# 707165 C27, D49, C61  
Licensed as QAL for Tree Healthcare



ISA Certified Arborists On Staff  
Tree Healthcare Practitioners On Staff  
Tree Care Specialist On Staff  
Biologist on Staff  
Certified Water Managers on Staff



## This Month's TREE - Douglas Fir



The Douglas-Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) is an evergreen conifer species in the pine family. Native to western North America, Douglas-Firs are actually very important trees and have many uses! These various uses include having their buds made into an eau de vie (colorless type of brandy), having their leaves and resin made into herbal medicines by many Native American groups, and the Douglas-Fir has been a long-time favorite choice for Christmas Trees! For Timber, they are often used in construction due to their strength and durability. To bolster the timber's hardness, Native Hawaiians built double-hulled canoes from coast Douglas-Fir logs that drifted ashore!

## This Month's PEST - Douglas-fir Beetle



The Douglas-Fir Beetle, as the name suggests, is the most destructive borer beetle that targets Douglas Fir trees in western North America. When the trees are stressed, whether from factors such as wind-throw or drought-like conditions, their ability to resist beetle attacks diminish and they become susceptible to an outbreak. During DFB outbreaks, groups of hundreds or more trees could die annually due to this borer beetle! The easiest way to spot if a tree is under attack is by the collection of reddish-brown sawdust found slightly lower than the borer's entry hole. Preventative measures such as pheromone applications can help control and protect Douglas-Firs from DFB outbreaks!

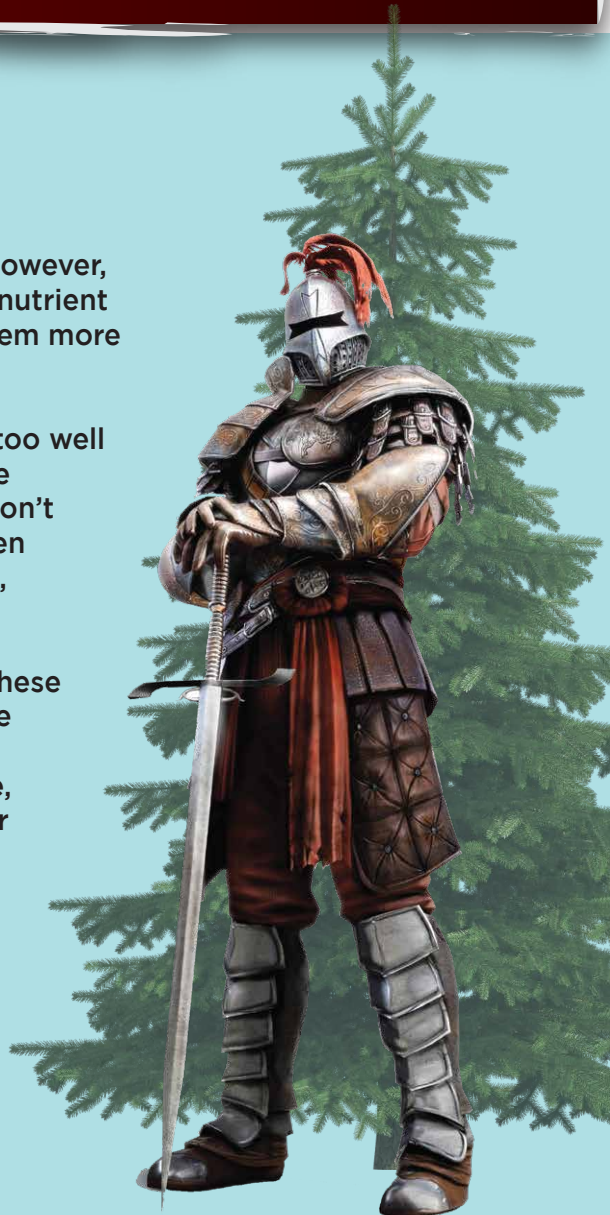
# DEFENDER OF THE CONIFER

Trees have very capable natural defenses against pests overall. However, when trees are under stress (whether it be heat, water-stress, or nutrient deficiency), their natural defenses become weakened, making them more susceptible to foreign invaders.

When it comes to Conifers, Pines, Spruces and Firs; we know all too well about the bark beetles that target these species. Largely only the stressed trees will be attacked, as these beetles are bullies and don't like to have to fight their way into the tree. Once the tree has been attacked, the treatments to rid the trees of them can be rigorous, and in some cases unsuccessful.

So how do we just keep them away altogether?? Well naturally, these beetles have a way of communicating. Putting it simply: The male beetles signal for female beetles to come to them using a pheromone, go figure! But when the female beetles join the male, not wanting to share him with other females, they give a stronger pheromone scent out, telling other females that there is nothing there for them... go figure once again... ha!

Science has allowed us to use nature's most primal instincts against itself, and we can now protect your pines and conifers against some species of bark beetles, using their own language. If you're interested in protecting your pine trees, give Gruett a call, we'll quote you a cost to have your trees protected!







✂  
**\$25 OFF**  
**ANY GRUETT**  
**TREE SERVICE OVER \$350**  
expires 01/15/20  
not to be combined with any other offer



✂  
**\$55 OFF**  
**TREE SERVICE OVER \$610**  
**AND DOUBLE YOUR COUPON**  
**WHEN YOU SPEND OVER \$1,100**  
expires 01/15/20  
not to be combined with any other offer



✂  
**TREAT 4 TREES WITH BARK BEETLE**  
**DETERRENT PHEROMONE**  
**TREATMENTS & GET**  
**2 TREES FREE**  
expires 01/15/20  
not to be combined with any other offer



✂  
**\*\*\* BARK BEETLE \*\*\***  
**DETERRENT PHEROMONE TREATMENT**  
**FOR 2 TREES & 5LBS OF GRUETT KAPOW**  
~~**\$350**~~ **\$200**  
expires 01/15/20  
not to be combined with any other offer



✂  
**\*\*\* AERATION SPECIAL \*\*\***  
**TWO HOURS OF AERATION WITH SOIL**  
**AMENDMENTS FOR UP TO 4 TREES**  
~~**\$1,100**~~ **\$760**  
expires 01/15/20  
Travel Distance restrictions may apply.  
not to be combined with any other offer



**TOLL FREE 1(877) 447-8388**

**E-MAIL US @ INFO@GRUETT.COM**