Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower center
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

4801 La Crosse Avenue
Austin, Texas • 78739-1702
(512) 232-0200
www.wildflower.org

MOLLIE STEVES ZACHRY TEXAS ARBORETUM
Adopt a Tree Application

1. Arborist Information

Company: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Address: _____

Contact Email: _____

2. Credentials (check all that apply)

☐ ISA Certified: _____ Certification Number

☐ ISA Member: _____ Member Number

☐ TOWC: _____ Texas Oak Wilt Certification Number

☐ Company or individual is bonded.

☐ Company or individual is insured.

3. References (provide name and phone number for three references)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. Personal Liability Release Form

The University of Texas at Austin does not assume liability of responsibility in whole or in part for any delays, loss, damage, or injury to person or property occasioned by any cause whatsoever, direct or indirect. Completion of this application shall be deemed to be acceptance of the above condition. **With my signature below, I hereby agree to the terms of The University of Texas at Austin Personal Liability Release Form.**

_____

Signature **Date**

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Pruning Scope

Each tree in the Adopt a Tree program has been given a number and affixed with a metal identifier (tree tag). An aerial photo with locations of each tree requiring work is available upon request.

All trees listed will receive pruning consistent with ANSI – A300 5.3.3.2 Mature Tree Care – Maintenance Prune. Minimum diameter branches to be pruned are 1 inch. Activities must ensure the preservation of existing landscape features. Special attention will be necessary to prevent the spread of oak wilt and the safety of Wildflower Center staff. Work window will run from 8 AM - 5 PM every Tuesday and Thursday in February and March 2011 in coordination with Wildflower Center staff.

Work will include:

1. Pruning of all trees will be consistent with ANSI – A300 5.3.3.2 Mature Tree Care - Maintenance Prune to maintain and improve tree health and structure including hazard reduction pruning. The primary objective will be crown cleaning but may also include crown thinning, raising, shaping and restoration as needed.
2. Minimum diameter branches to be pruned is 1 inch.
3. The complete removal of ball moss will not be recognized as a specific requirement for this pruning project. To avoid additional branch scarring or unwarranted branch removal, the removal of ball moss will only occur as a by-product or incidentally through the process of maintenance pruning. Although some may be removed through the pruning operations, it is not to be specifically targeted.
4. Precautions for the inadvertent transmittal of the Oak Wilt Disease by following the attached **Pruning Guidelines for Prevention of Oak Wilt in Texas**.
5. All arboricultural operations to adhere to ANSI Z133.1 Safety requirements.
6. All woody debris generated by this project shall be raked up thoroughly and relocated to the designated debris pile at the end of the workday.

Wildflower Center Contacts

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Pruning Guidelines for Prevention of Oak Wilt in Texas

Prepared January 12th, 2011 in cooperation between Texas Forest Service, Texas AgriLife Extension Service and International Society of Arboriculture Texas Chapter (available at http://www.TexasOakWilt.org).

Oak wilt, caused by the fungus Ceratocystis fagacearum, is the most destructive disease affecting live oaks and red oaks in Central Texas. Most of the tree mortality results from tree- to-tree spread of the pathogen through interconnected or grafted root systems, once an oak wilt center becomes established. New infection centers begin when beetles carry oak wilt fungal spores from infected red oaks to fresh, open wounds on healthy oaks. Wounds include any damage caused by wind, hail, vehicles, construction, squirrels, birds or pruning. Research has shown that both oak wilt fungal mats on infected red oaks and insects that carry oak wilt spores are most prevalent in the spring. Below is a brief description of how you can reduce the risk of fungal spread when pruning.

- Always paint fresh wounds on oaks, including pruning cuts and stumps, with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after pruning or live tree removal at all times of the year.
- Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or LysolTM between sites and/or trees.
- If possible avoid pruning or wounding of oaks during the spring (currently defined as
- February1 through June 30). Reasons to prune in the spring include:
    - To accommodate public safety concerns such as hazardous limbs, traffic visibility or emergency utility line clearance.
    - To repair damaged limbs (from storms or other anomalies)
    - To remove limbs rubbing on a building or rubbing on other branches, and to raise low limbs over a street.
    - On sites where construction schedules take precedence, pruning any live tissue should only be done to accommodate required clearance.
    - Dead branch removal where live tissue is not exposed.
- Pruning for other reasons (general tree health, non-safety related clearance or thinning, etc.) should be conducted before February 1 or after June 30.
- Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped, burned or buried.
- Regardless of the reasons or time of year, proper pruning techniques should be used. These techniques include making proper pruning cuts and avoiding injurious practices such as topping or excessive crown thinning. If you are uncertain about any of this information, you should consult with a Texas Oak Wilt Certified arborist, ISA Certified Arborist, or an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

REFERENCES

Appel, D.N., and R.F. Billings (eds.). 1995. Oak wilt perspectives: Proceedings of the Nation Oak Wilt Symposium, June 22-25, 1992. Austin, TX. Information Development, Houston, TX. 217 p.

Billings, R.F., and D.N. Appel (eds.). 2009. Proceedings of the National Oak Wilt Symposium. June 4-7, 2007, Austin, TX. Texas Forest Service Publication166. 267p.