

# Branchin' Out

## Iron Chlorosis

One of the major issues customers call about is chlorosis. Chlorosis is a serious condition where a tree's ability to manufacture chlorophyll has been compromised. This condition is easy to diagnose by looking at leaf color. Mild chlorosis may occur as a pale green look to the leaves, while leaves may be yellow and even white in severe cases.

Chlorosis results when chlorophyll is absent, the molecule utilized for a tree to make energy for itself. The condition results in a weaker, less durable tree that will rarely make it to maturity. Chlorotic trees are usually declining and will often die without treatment.

There are several causes of chlorosis, but mineral deficiencies and root system health are among the most significant. When minerals like iron or manganese are absent from the soil or locked up by high soil pH they are not available to the tree. Similarly, if the

root system is damaged or unhealthy, the tree will not have the capacity to absorb these items. Common reasons trees appear chlorotic may include:

- Severe soil compaction
- Over-irrigation
- Lawn herbicides
- Root Severing
- Deicing salt
- Root rots/disease
- Repeated drought

Chlorotic trees don't produce enough energy to develop a healthy root system, and unhealthy root systems do not extract the water and nutrients from the soil needed for canopy health. Without one the other languishes, and human intervention is needed to correct the situation.

We believe the main problem is with soil pH, especially in the 63301 zip code. We attempt to address this problem through deep root fertiliza-

tion with additional Sulfur and Iron to lower pH and increase available Iron to the tree. However, this process is slow to show results. Although it is the least costly approach and one of the only ways to lower soil pH. If quicker results are needed in more severe cases or are not getting the desired results through fertilizing, we recommend trunk injection with Verdur (an iron injection) and a soil treatment with cambistat ( a growth regulator) to encourage fine root development.

There are products available at garden stores, but they aren't as effective and should be applied professionally. Please call Kevin at (636)332-5535 with questions relating to Iron Chlorosis.

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#### FERTILIZING

#### VERDUR/CAMBISTAT

Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
Inexpensive	Needs to repeat annually	Quick results	Expensive
Changes pH	Slow to show results	Treatment lasts 3 years	Needs to be done in Oct only
Long term solution			Fertilizing still needed for long term solution



# News from the Top

**News & Advice from Gary Allen,  
President of Allen's Tree Service**



Happy fall everyone!

I would like to introduce a new key member to the Allen's team. His name is Roger Branson and he is an ISA Certified Arborist who has been in this industry for over 40

years. Roger has brought a whole new array of services to our clients. Do you have a tree in your yard that you or someone else planted on a special day like when your child was born or anniversary of some sort and now it must be removed? We understand that you still want to keep it because it holds sentimental value, and we can help! Roger has the ability to mill the tree for lumber so you can either hire a woodworker or carve your own keepsake. Roger has created many different items including pens, small bowls, jewelry boxes, etc. He can customize the items depending on what you are wanting him to create and the size of the piece of wood you are turning into a keepsake.

Also, I believe a lot of our customers are aware that we are accredited by the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) but not sure how much we have actually explained the process. TCIA is an organization that develops safety and educational programs, standards of tree care practice, and management information for arboriculture firms around the world. Through TCIA's accreditation program, consumers can be assured of hiring a professional & ethical tree care company that has been inspected by TCIA for proper business practices, professional employees, quality of service, and customer satisfaction.

## Dangerous Industry

The tree industry has come a long way. I remember the days when we were led to believe that there were few accidents in our industry that it wasn't all that dangerous since tree services tried to hide their accidents and the information wasn't revealed, I am proud that has changed. The internet emerged and professionals were amazed by how many accidents there really are. There is more information available on the internet than there was in newspapers. The TCIA and tree care professionals around the country jointly try to prevent as many injuries and fatalities as possible. A current research project on tree worker safety is being conducted by South Dakota State University signifying that chipper injuries and fatalities are occurring as often as twice a month which is about 1 person every two weeks. 5 workers were killed in separate accidents involving chippers during a 9-week period at the end of 2008.

You may be surprised to learn that the tree industry is one of the most dangerous industries in the United States. Workers are often being injured or killed. Just this May, there was a fatality in Sikeston where a man was cutting a branch on a tree. Due to his lack of training the branch swung back, striking him and his girlfriend, killing her instantly while breaking his neck.

From 2003-2006, there were a total of 288, fatalities that occurred while operating tools or machinery during tree trimming or removal operations according to the Tree Care Industry Association. Fallen trees or limbs caused 53% of all deaths from thunderstorms last year. Our Certified Arborists focus on reducing the risk of trees falling and storm damage. There is not any way to eliminate all risks but they can easily spot a hazardous tree and inform the customer. Some hazardous signs the normal person might not notice include mushrooms, fungal growth, swelling at the base of the tree, or uprooting of the roots.



## Plant Better Trees for Better Survival

Does your yard look bare because of lack of trees? Or have you recently removed a tree on your property and need to plant a new one? Allen's Tree Service can help. We have a variety of trees available in our nursery. Our Certified Arborists personally hand pick our trees for the best quality possible. Our nursery stock comes directly from the grower so we know that the trees are handled by only one company and will be taken care of properly before it reaches your location. If you buy your trees from a nursery or home and garden store, the tree may have been handled by 10 different companies and 50 pairs of hands before it arrives at your home. Our trees are available in variable sizes. The larger the tree you plant, the more difficult for it to survive because so much of its root system was left behind when it was dug out of the nursery, we recommend planting trees 3 inches in diameter or smaller for the best survival. You may purchase the trees from our nursery to plant yourself or you may have Allen's Tree Service plant the tree, so you have time to sit back and relax. Call (636) 332-5535 to schedule a visit and browse our nursery stock. If Allen's Tree Service plants your tree then we guarantee survival for 1 year if the tree is properly cared for after it is planted by our landscape team. The absolute best time to plant a tree is in the fall because the tree is in the ground for two wet seasons. This allows the tree to get enough water that it needs and establish a healthy root system for summer growth.

## Mulch

Mulching is very beneficial to trees and plants because it maintains moisture, improves soil conditions, minimizes weeds, and reduces damage from weed whackers. It is important that mulch is applied correctly. We recommend a layer of mulch about 3-4 inches deep. You want to pull the mulch away from the stems or tree trunks several inches so the base is exposed. The mulch ring should resemble a donut; not a volcano. If you already have mulch in place, you will need to first rake or till the old mulch to break up any matted layers before applying new mulch and will still want to keep it 3-4 inches thick including the previous mulch.

There are two main types of mulch – organic and dyed mulch. Organic mulches decompose in the landscape which improves the soil quality and provides nutrients

for plants. We carry double ground organic mulch which is the normal standard size of mulch. We also have finer organic mulch called triple ground and best suited for newly planted trees and plants or a new landscape because it breaks down faster and allows the nutrients to be available sooner.

We also carry dyed mulches in red and brown. Dyed mulch does hold it's color longer than the organic mulch. Dyed mulches do not provide nutrients to the trees or plants nor does it improve soil structure. We strongly recommend going with organic mulch. Please call (636)332-5535 for more information!



## Proper Pruning

Everyday we receive several calls from our clients needing an estimate on tree care, not sure what the trees need, they ask for their trees to be shaped, trimmed or topped. However these pruning practices can harm your trees. When we prune a tree we make proper pruning cuts to ensure that the tree can enclose the wounds that are made. If you make proper pruning cuts the tree is more likely to survive and still able to fight off insects and diseases. If improper pruning cuts are made to the tree, it will not enclose the wound and may try

to put on new foliage where the cut was made. When this foliage grows back it is weaker than before because it grows back faster. In this process the tree also uses more energy and nutrients than it normally would when enclosing the wound. The tree now has little to no energy to fight off insects or disease nor the nutrients it needs to stay healthy. One pruning method is to raise the canopy on the tree, also called crown raising. We suggest before planting a tree to find out how tall and wide it will get and make sure it has room to grow where

you plant it. Some other pruning practices are deadwooding, crown thinning, crown cleaning. Deadwooding is removing the dead wood from the tree. Crown thinning is removing some of the interior branches from the tree to allow the wind to blow through the interior. Crown cleaning is removing any rubbing, crossing, or inferior branches of the tree that may cause problems. If you have any questions about proper pruning or need an estimate please give our office a call at (636)332-5535

# Why Choose Allen's Tree Service?

There is a difference between an Arborist and a Certified Arborist that some people may not know. Anyone in the arboriculture field can claim they are an Arborist. A Certified Arborist is an individual with a minimum of 3 years of experience in the Arboricultural field, passed an extensive exam from the ISA (International Society of Arboricultural), and a professional who possesses the technical competence through experience and related training to provide for (or supervises the management of) trees and other woody plants in the residential, commercial, and public landscape. They must also continue to attend seminars and review the latest publications to obtain necessary continuing education credits.

Certified Arborists can diagnose and treat your tree or shrub related problem, advise on proper pruning and management techniques for your trees and shrubs, understands tree biology, specializes in tree identification and can select the appropriate trees and shrubs for your landscape, understands the delicate soil and water relationships which affect tree and shrub health, knows the nutrition requirements and fertilization techniques to keep your trees and shrubs in peak form, and also recognizes tree hazards and construction damage. Allen's Tree Service has several Certified Arborists and would love to evaluate your trees. Please call (636)332-5535 to schedule an appointment. If you are receiving

estimates from other companies, we recommend checking for membership in a professional organization such as the TCIA (Tree Care Industry Association), ISA Certified Arborists, and proof of insurance-call the insurance company to make sure general liability and worker's compensation. Homeowners can also be held responsible for damages and injuries that occur as a result of a job done on their property by an uninsured tree care company. Many homeowners have had to pay out large amounts of money for damages caused by uninsured individuals claiming to be tree experts that are fully insured. For more information, please visit [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com).

## Introducing Roger Branson!

I started climbing trees as a youngster, primarily to get plums, peaches, apples, persimmons, and mulberries. When I was in high school, I began pruning trees for some of my friends' parents. I worked my way through college by trimming trees during the summers and I graduated from the University of Missouri: Columbia, with a degree in Forestry way back in 1972. I have been involved in all aspects of Arboriculture and Urban Forestry for about 42 years. I have been involved in planting, growing, digging, pruning, cabling, spraying, and removing trees. I have been a Certified Arborist for about 16 years. As a woodworker and woodturner, I have been able to use trees or tree limbs to make wooden "things." Many of my wood pieces are in the white house-(not the white house the President lives in, but the white house my mother lives in.)

About 3 years ago, I purchased a portable woodmizer sawmill and have turned many trees into beautiful lumber-trees that would have otherwise have been cut into firewood or ground into mulch, or hauled to a land fill.

In these days of recycling and conservation, it is vital that we treat these trees from the urban forest as the valuable resource they are. Lumber is expensive and even though many of the urban trees may not yield the highest grade of lumber, much of it is suitable for purposes where lower grades of lumber will suffice. But many urban trees yield high grade beautiful lumber. Often, I am stunned as I mill a tree when I find beautiful figure, color, or grain.

Sometimes I mill trees which have sentimental value or have associated memories which can be preserved and passed on by making something from

the tree; perhaps the tree that Grandpa planted or the tree that Uncle Jake was hung from.

One tree in particular-a large Kentucky Coffee tree had to be removed to build a new house. It stood where the kitchen would be. I milled it into lumber and now it stands in the same place, only now it is the kitchen table.

If your tree needs to be removed and there is some sentimental attachment you might have, we can process it into lumber for you and you can perhaps make something or have something made to let the tree live again!



# Yearly Calendar

## TREE CARE

### January

- Prune American Elm Trees

### February

- Prune Oak Trees

### March

- Dormant Oil Spray starts
- Spring Cambistat Treatment

### April

- Dormant Oil Spray continues
- Sweetgum Ball Florel Spraying

### May

- Deep Root Fertilization

### June

- Bagworms on evergreens and in the landscape

### July

- Japanese beetles on fruit trees, some flowers, little leaf linden trees, river birches, etc

### August

- Webworms on fruit or other trees

### September

- Plant new trees & shrubs
- Spray tulip trees for aphids/scale

### October

- Deep Root Fertilization of trees & shrubs
- Plant new trees & shrubs
- Treatments for Iron Chlorosis on Oak Trees

### November

- Deep Root Fertilization of trees & shrubs
- Plant new trees & shrubs
- Prune Oak Trees

### December

- Deep Root Fertilization of trees & shrubs
- Plant new trees & shrubs
- Prune Oak Trees

## LAWN CARE

### March

- Pre-emergent for crabgrass & spring annual weeds
- Post-emergent for weeds, and shrub & flower beds

### April

- Second pre-emergent to control foxtails & other summer annual weeds
- Well balanced fertilizer for quick green-up
- Post-Emergent for weeds in shrub beds

### June

- A balanced, slow release fertilizer to continue healthy growth
- Spot treatment for control of broadleaf & grassy weeds

### September

- Core aeration and seeding
- Formulated fertilizer to strengthen and deepen root system
- Pre-emergent to control winter weeds & grasses

### October

- Core aeration and seeding
- Formulated fertilizer to strengthen and deepen root system
- Winterizer



# We'd Love to Hear from You!

Allen's Tree Service Inc is happy to assist you with any services you may need more information about. Please cut this out, mark the items you are interested in and either call, e-mail, or mail this to the address below ...we look forward to hearing from you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Complete Tree Health Care

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree/Limb Removal    | <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosis/Evaluations     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood/Brush Removal   | <input type="checkbox"/> Deep Root Fertilization   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stump Grinding       | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect/Disease Control    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bucket Truck Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Horticultural Oil Spray   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selective Pruning    | <input type="checkbox"/> Nuisance Fruit Eliminator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deadwooding          | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth Regulators         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crown Thinning       | <input type="checkbox"/> Injections                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crown Raising        | <input type="checkbox"/> Vertical Mulching         |

## Complete Landscape Maintenance

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grass Cutting | <input type="checkbox"/> Weed/Crab Grass Control   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Edging        | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Control            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trimming      | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf Removal              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilization | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Bed Maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aeration      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mulch Installation        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overseeding   |  |

## 24-Hour Emergency Storm Service

### Land / Lot Clearing

### Organic and Colored Mulches (sold in bulk or by the yard)

### Commercial Snow & Ice Removal

Allen's Tree Service

2755 W. Pearce Blvd.

Wentzville, MO 63385-3218

**(636) 332-5535**

**www.allenstreeservice.com**

**Additional Questions/Information:**

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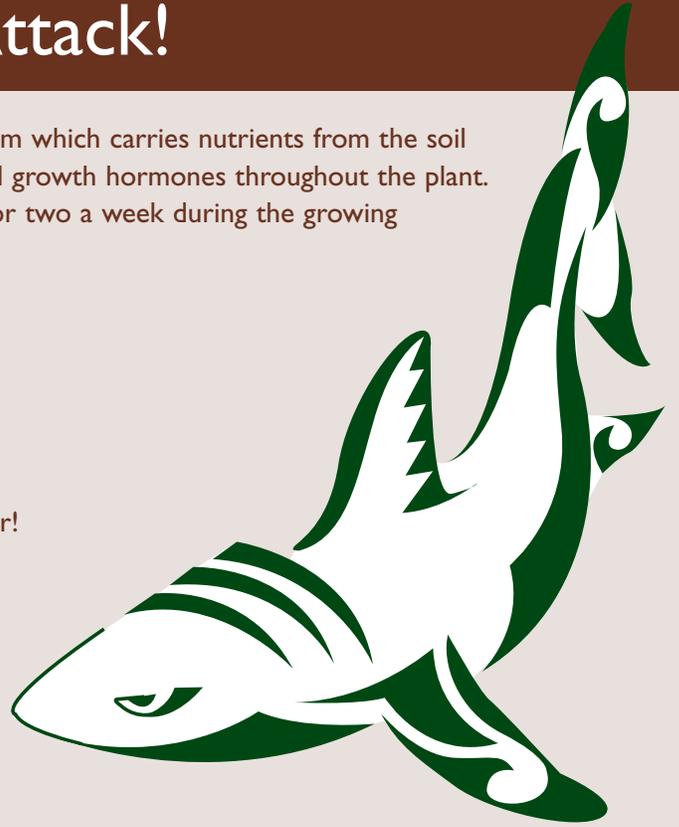


# Shark Attack!

It is important to keep your plants watered. Water is the medium which carries nutrients from the soil to where they are needed in the plant. It also carries sugars and growth hormones throughout the plant. But plants can be over watered. They need on average an inch or two a week during the growing season—a slow deep watering.

## Top 10 Signs That You May Be Over Watering Your Yard

1. Shark Attack!
2. That annoying barking at night is not a dog; it is a seal!
3. Your neighborhood is patrolled by the Coast Guard!
4. You had to trade in your riding lawnmower for a waverunner!
5. You wear your flippers to get the morning paper!
6. You trade in your dog for a beaver!
7. Your second car is a bass boat!
8. You don't have moles any more, but you do have catfish!
9. Your roses have been choked by cattails!
10. You trade in your kid's skateboard for a surfboard!



**636-332-5535 For Everything Green, Call the Allen's Team! [www.allenstreeservice.com](http://www.allenstreeservice.com)**



2755 W. Pearce Blvd.  
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**(636) 332-5535**

*"Branching Out" is published periodically to bring you information that will make your life easier and more enjoyable. We would appreciate it if you would pass this newsletter along to friends and relatives who might be in need of any of our services.*

*If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or would like to request an additional issue of "Branching Out" please call Allen's Tree Service Inc. at 636-946-2213 or 636-332-5535 or visit us online:*

**[www.allenstreeservice.com](http://www.allenstreeservice.com)**

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