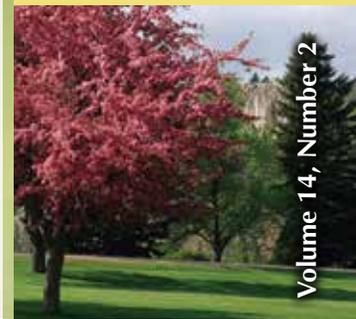


# THE arborist ALMANAC



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spring : 2015

“The crews from Arborist never disappoint me. They *meet my expectations* and I’ve told folks who comment on how *nice my yard, shrubs & trees look*, I give credit to Arborist.”

Ann R. - Leola, PA

## TIME FOR

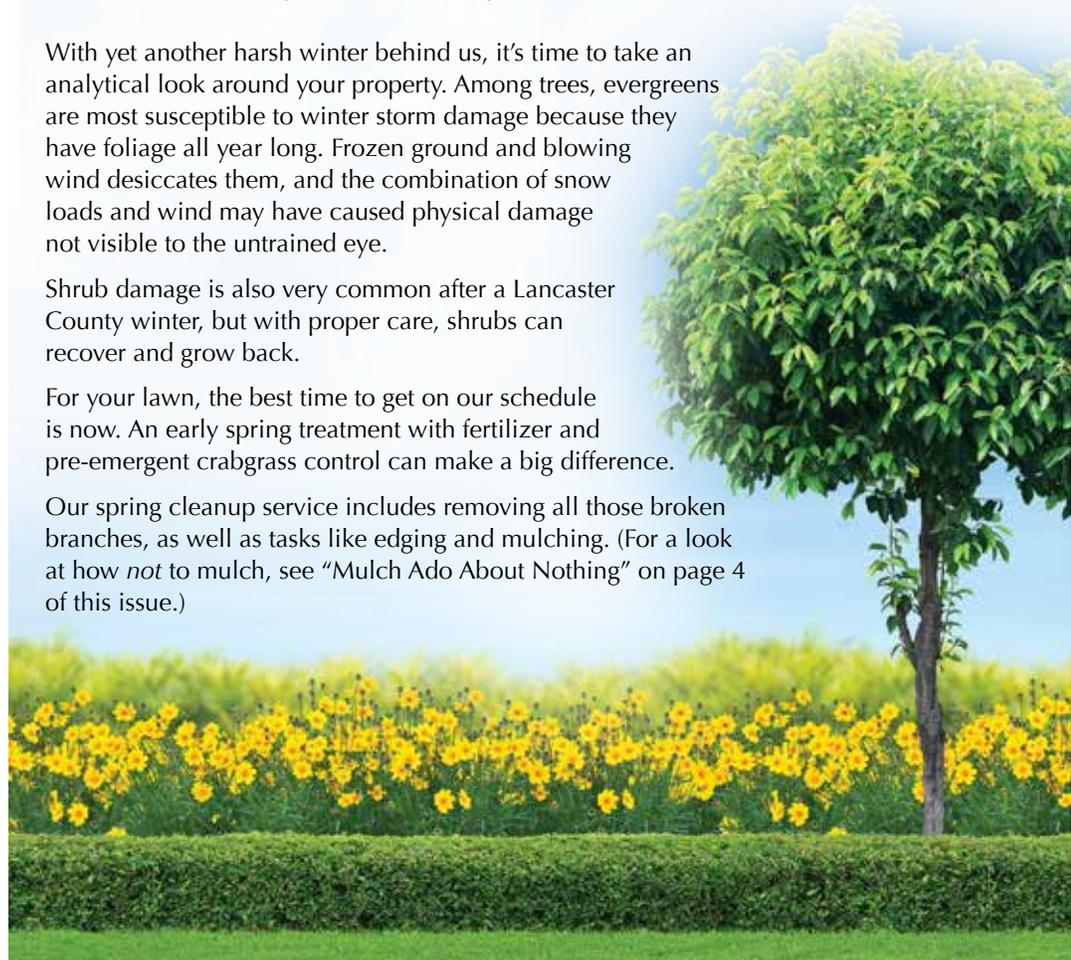
### Tree, Shrub, and Lawn Care

With yet another harsh winter behind us, it’s time to take an analytical look around your property. Among trees, evergreens are most susceptible to winter storm damage because they have foliage all year long. Frozen ground and blowing wind desiccates them, and the combination of snow loads and wind may have caused physical damage not visible to the untrained eye.

Shrub damage is also very common after a Lancaster County winter, but with proper care, shrubs can recover and grow back.

For your lawn, the best time to get on our schedule is now. An early spring treatment with fertilizer and pre-emergent crabgrass control can make a big difference.

Our spring cleanup service includes removing all those broken branches, as well as tasks like edging and mulching. (For a look at how *not* to mulch, see “Mulch Ado About Nothing” on page 4 of this issue.)



We’re happy to report that Arborist Enterprises, Inc. recently was reaccredited by the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA), an independent trade association of more than 2,000 commercial tree care and affiliated companies. TCIA serves the consumer by certifying companies that follow specific business, arboricultural and safety procedures.

REMEMBER TO “LIKE” US ON 

 10%  
Post Consumer Waste



We are accredited by the Tree Care Industry Association.  
Visit [ArboristEnterprises.com](http://ArboristEnterprises.com) for more information about our firm.

# New Exotic Asian Pest

## THREATENS PA TREES



The **spotted lanternfly** is a planthopper found in China, Korea, India, Vietnam, and parts of eastern Asia. Unlike the emerald ash borer (EAB)— another foreign pest which has been working its way eastward from Michigan since 2002— the spotted lanternfly's first appearance in North America was in Berks County, PA in September 2014.

This puts the pest at the doorstep of Lancaster County before the Department of Agriculture has had time to figure out how to stop it. A quarantine on firewood and other items is in place to slow its spread while federal and state agencies develop a comprehensive action plan.

The spotted lanternfly attacks a variety of hosts including grape vines, fruit trees, pines, and more than 70 additional species. Egg masses can appear not only on smooth bark, but on stone and other vertical surfaces, even vehicles such as stored campers.

For more details and to report sightings, visit the PA Department of Agriculture's website at <http://goo.gl/vTxgko>.

We know much more about the **emerald ash borer**. This ash tree killing machine continued its eastward march into eight more Pennsylvania counties in 2014, including Berks, Lebanon and York, all adjacent to Lancaster County.

Now it appears that this nasty green beetle is eating more than ash trees. A researcher at Wright State University has added white fringetree to the list of victims. *"It may have a wider host range than we ever thought, or it is adapting to new hosts,"* he said.

If your property has any ash trees, please contact us to have one of our ISA-certified arborists inspect them. Arborist Enterprises has developed a specific and effective program to increase the health of your ash trees and protect against EAB destruction.

An adult spotted lanternfly (Photograph by Lawrence Barringer, PA Department of Agriculture)

*"Your three staff members did a terrific job. I'm sure the improvement in my "woods" will be even more evident come spring!"*

— Clydene E. – Lancaster, PA

## SHEARING: FROM SHEEP TO SHRUBS



The mystery of how shearing got transferred from sheep to shrubs remains unsolved among horticulturalists. Although shearing shrubs creates cubes, spheres and other shapes desired by some homeowners, over time it creates a twiggy, overgrown outer shell, and a dark interior that's the perfect place for pests and diseases to take hold.

Selective hand pruning opens up the center of the plant, improves air flow and sun exposure, and removes deadwood. When light reaches the center of the plant, new growth is encouraged, and outer growth can be pruned to keep the shrub's size under control.

Most homeowners shear with power tools in the belief that it's the easiest way to control size and appearance. In fact, hand pruning can be just as time-efficient in the long run, while being much more ecologically sound.

If you'd like to stop following the herd and say "baah" to shearing, ask us about shepherding your plants back to their healthy, natural state with selective hand pruning. (We admit to feeling a little sheepish about that last sentence. It was lamb.)

Visit [ArboristEnterprises.com](http://ArboristEnterprises.com) to learn more about our full-service offerings.

# WHAT EXACTLY IS

# Plant Health Care?

In recent years, the tree care industry adopted the term "plant health care" to describe a new holistic approach to the health of plants. The idea was to shift focus away from merely preventing pest damage, changing not only techniques but attitudes as well. Steps in plant health care include:

- Identifying all plants in the landscape
- Determining key problems
- Studying the landscape ecosystem to understand relationships
- Frequently monitoring for pests, irrigation, fertility, and weather
- Optimizing plant health with smart planning and good practices

Our ISA-certified arborists are trained to identify signs of disease and can provide solutions and treatment to ensure the long-term health of your trees, shrubs and plants. Give us a jingle at 717-393-7602 or 610-436-0161 for more information.

# THANK you!

## Survey Card

*dinner winner*

*From all of us at Arborist Enterprises, thank you for your valuable feedback. Hearing from our clients helps us continuously improve and provide the highest quality service.*

*"Your crew is a credit to your company and the reason I remain a customer. Over the years, I have highly recommended you to other people."*

Congratulations to Mr. Dave Gerhart, who received a \$100 gift card to the Log Cabin restaurant in our survey card drawing.



After your next experience with us, fill out a survey card to be eligible to win a \$100 gift card to a local fine dining restaurant.

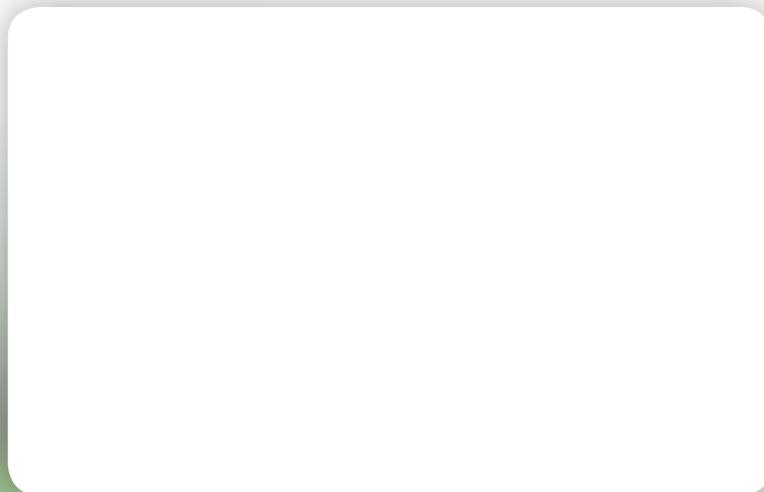
# CAN YOU MATCH THESE SIX STATES WITH THEIR STATE TREES?

(HINT: THREE STATES SHARE THE SAME TREE, THE SUGAR MAPLE.)

- MARYLAND      🌲 EASTERN HEMLOCK
- NEW JERSEY    🌲 NORTHERN RED OAK
- NEW YORK      🌲 SUGAR MAPLE
- PENNSYLVANIA   🌲 WHITE OAK
- VERMONT
- WEST VIRGINIA



1926 Auction Road, Manheim, PA 17545



ANSWERS:  
 NEW YORK, VERMONT, WEST VIRGINIA: SUGAR MAPLE.  
 PENNSYLVANIA: EASTERN HEMLOCK.  
 MARYLAND: WHITE OAK.  
 NEW JERSEY: NORTHERN RED OAK.

Here's your **Spring 2015** Arborist Enterprises newsletter!

LANCASTER COUNTY 717-393-7602    CHESTER COUNTY 610-436-0161

## Did You Know?

### WE CARE FOR THE GREEN STUFF UNDER YOUR TREES

At Arborist Enterprises we are dedicated to being your full-service lawn care company.

Our lawn care services include:

- Fertilization
- Broadleaf weed control
- Pre-emergent crabgrass control
- Grub and surface insect treatments
- Disease treatments
- Aeration and overseeding
- Lawn renovation

## MULCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Arborists shed a tear when they see “mulch volcanoes,” those mounds of mulch piled high up the trunks of trees. Despite many years of preaching, experts have not been able to arrest this epidemic. Unfortunately, excess mulch can trap moisture, softening the tree’s bark and promoting invasion by insects, rodents and disease.

Shrubs such as azaleas, boxwoods and Japanese hollies will grow roots directly into mulch volcanoes, which can then dry and die when the mulch decomposes.

To mulch correctly, follow these tips from [ArboristEnterprises.com](http://ArboristEnterprises.com):

- 1 Do not add mulch if a sufficient two to four inches is already in place.
- 2 Rake old mulch to improve appearance and break up matted layers.
- 3 Expand the mulch ring on young trees to the width of the canopy and slope it inward toward the trunk.
- 4 Use non-bark mulch, coarsely chopped. Bark mulch breaks down very slowly, doesn’t replenish the soil, and reduces soil moisture.



Photo courtesy Casey Trees



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