

Love Letter from . . .

Tree Loving Care

Lubbock, Texas (806) 785-8733 • Midland, Texas (432) 620-8733
Winter 2018 • Serving All The West Texas Tree Needs Since 1978

Dear Friends and Fellow Tree Lovers

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! I hope you have had a blessed year. We just passed the Thanksgiving holiday which is a traditional for being thankful for blessings, but I think Christmas and the New Year is also such a time. Christmas is a time to be thankful for the birth of our Lord and Savior and the New Year is a great time to examine triumphs and failures of the previous year and set goals for the new one. I'm not much for News Year's resolutions, but goals are a wonderful thing.

The Tree Loving Care family did suffer a great personal tragedy recently and we still covet your prayers. Joyce Lathey is the sweet voice you hear when you call and her husband, Butch is our lead Arborist in Lubbock. Two of their sons also work for TLC. Recently, Joyce's niece lost 4 children in a house fire. Please continue to pray for the family.

TLC will be planting four Chinese Pistachios in the Lubbock Memorial Arboretum as a memorial to them next month. Chinese Pistachios are good tree climbing trees and every child should be able to climb a tree.

In spite of my advice that retirement isn't all it's cracked up to be, **Milton Kirby**, Certified Arborist, in Midland, has decided to retire and has asked Tree Loving Care to serve his clients. So, those of you that will allow us continue to serve you, welcome to the Tree Loving Care family. I hope that you will enjoy the relationships and customer service with TLC as you have had with Milton. We appreciate your loyalty. If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to my attention. We intend to continue most of the same practices and procedures that you have come to know with Milton.

If you have been pleased with our service, please put a good review on Google and other websites. If not, please tell us so we can correct the problem.

James Tuttle, Certified Arborist TX0117A

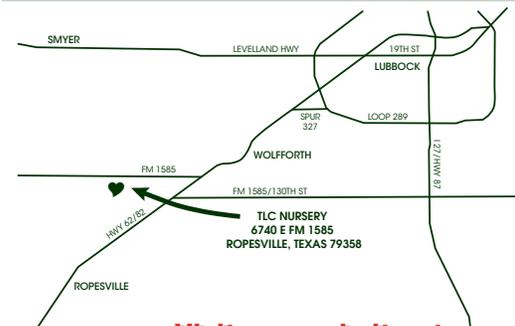
Tree Of The Quarter

Cupressus arizonica. **Arizona Cypress**, was planted extensively decades ago as a windbreak tree in much of West Texas. It was and is an excellent tree with few insect or disease problems. It is very drought tolerant and is native from far west Texas to Arizona. Generally with a blueish cast to the foliage, the tree can be quite striking.

Arizona Cypress seems to have fallen out of favor as windbreak plantings in favor of the Ketleer Juniper and Afghan Pine. That is too bad, as it makes an excellent windbreak tree. Arizona Cypress commonly grows 40-50' tall and 25-30' wide in an upright conical form. It is readily available in the nursery trade.



Arizona Cypress
(*Cupressus arizonica*)



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GIVE YOUR TREES TLC

For the first time in many years, West Texas has widespread adequate to excellent subsoil moisture. Winter is a normally dry period for this region, but for now, the area is good shape. However, the sandy loam soils that are common in West Texas tend to hold only an inch of moisture for a month.

If you don't get a good rain of more than a half inch in the next couple of weeks, give your entire landscape a good soak. A 'good soak' means an inch or more. If you don't know how much your sprinkler puts out, do a 'can test'. Set out 3-4 small tuna fish cans randomly and see how long it takes to fill them up. They are 1.25" deep. It would be helpful to know if they all catch the same amount of water.

CRITTERS AND CRUDS

Dormant oil is a good management tool for many insect and mite problems. Dormant oils coat eggs and kill many individuals. This greatly reduces pest populations. If the size of the first generation of multiple generational pests is reduced, this means less breeding for subsequent generations. Often, this is enough to keep populations to point that more extreme control measures aren't necessary.

Soil applied and trunk injected systemic insecticide applications can begin as early as February. Elm Leaf Beetle is a perennial problem. Mild winters and early spring can result in insect emergence as early as first week of March. If you have had this insect attacking your elm trees, call one of our Certified Arborists to assess your trees needs.



TLC UPDATE

TLC Nursery is open and has an excellent selection of trees. Trees are best planted in the dormant season. Come by the nursery and pick out your future shade. TLC Nursery is located 6 miles west of Wolfforth on FM 1585.

James Tuttle, Butch Lathey, Kevin Pickens and Travis Perez all went to the Texas Tree Conference in late September. There was an excellent slate of speakers and lots of good information on the latest and greatest in tree care.

Visit our website at
www.treelovingcare.com