

Love Letter from . . .

Tree Loving Care

Lubbock, Texas (806) 785-8733 • Midland, Texas (432) 620-8733
Fall 2020 • Serving All The West Texas Tree Needs Since 1978

Dear Friends and Fellow Tree Lovers

WOW, WHAT A YEAR. And to top it off, we are in the middle of the worst drought since 2012. The only part of the west third of Texas that isn't somewhere between severe to exceptional drought is desert, where extremely dry is normal. My prediction is that we will be removing a lot of trees next year and the year after. Please don't let it be one of yours. Please give your trees a good long drink. Many are on the edge.

Remember, the roots go a lot further out than you would think. Water at least out to the drip line or as far out as the tree is tall. Your irrigation should get the soil wet at least 18" deep. If the soil is dry, that probably means at least the equivalent of 2.5-3' of rain. Pray for rain.

In some ways, it seems like only yesterday that it was 2018. In others, seems like the pandemic started 5 years ago. One thing I do know, our compost and wood chips are still virus free and so are our trees. And, thank God, it will be planting season about the time you get this letter. I am ready for this summer to be over.

But before the year is over, there is Christmas!! It is hard to believe, but it is just around the corner. Tree Loving Care is already planning Christmas. We are organizing, ordering supplies and training. If you want something festive to help send this year out on a good note, give us a call. We custom design a display for your home, install it, maintain it so it looks great all season long. After the season, we take it down and store everything that came off of your home in your box(es) and it is ready to put up next year. Give one of our decorators a call at 877-594-8733.



Tree Loving Care has had a good year in spite of the unprecedented shut down of businesses and completely unconstitutional trampling of our individual rights. In spite of the panic, we continued to not panic buy toilet paper. However, in anticipation of the coin shortage, we did hoard loose change. If you have a great need for change in your business, we are selling pennies 80 for a dollar and 3 quarters for a dollar. We also have a great supply of wood chips for mulch, compost for the garden and plenty of firewood. Personally, I expect an unusually cold winter and then we will get panic buying of firewood. Get your early.

James Tuttle, Certified Arborist TX0117A

Tree Of The Quarter

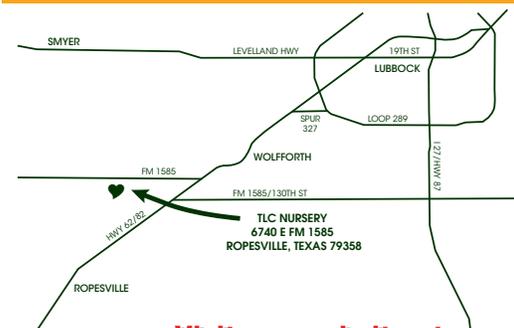
There has been a greater understanding of drought tolerance and importance of the issue for the last several years. The public is becoming more aware and have been asking for more drought tolerant plants and, therefore, more and more drought tolerant trees and shrubs have been bought by retail nurseries. That means that more and more, growers are growing them.

Some very good trees and shrubs are still relatively unknown and are not in great demand, even though there are beautiful and very hardy.

One such small tree is **Texas Persimmon**, *Diodpyros texana*. It is also called Black Persimmon because of the fruit, which are dark purple to black when ripe. Fruit is born on female trees and can be messy. However, the fruit is a great wildlife attractant. Texas Persimmon rarely reach 20' tall and are amazingly drought tolerant. They might need a little supplemental irrigation in summers like 2020.



**Texas Persimmon,
(*Diodpyros texana*)**



Visit our website at
www.treelovingcare.com



TREE LOVING CARE

9821 US 62 • Wolfforth, Texas 79382

Listen to
**'Tree Talk for Texas' on
KWEL AM 1070 • FM 107.1**
every Thursdays morning
at 9:00 a.m.



GIVE YOUR TREES TLC

Fall is the best season for planting trees and shrubs. The hardest part of successful transplanting of trees and shrubs is growing enough roots before summer heat stress gets here. The majority of root growth for many plants is in the fall. That makes it a great time to plant. It also makes it very important to adequately water in the winter, even for established plants. They are dormant, not dead.

TLC Nursery has some great trees that are well adapted for our semi-arid environment. The Nursery is located 6 miles west of Wolfforth on FM 1585. That is about 13 miles west of Loop 289 around Lubbock. Come see us.

If your trees have been yellow for the last several months, it is probably because of a nutrient deficiency, primarily iron. Fall is the best time to apply micro-nutrients for this problem. An application now will generally keep the trees a normal (and healthy) green color for two years.

CRITTERS AND CRUDS

It is far too late to control many insects, but not all. Fall is still time to systemically treat for many scale insects. Controlling or even reducing their numbers this year will leave less of a breeding population for next year. This is especially important for the Obscure Scale on Red and Live Oaks.

Aphids are a perennial problem in the fall on several oaks, pecans and on some elms. If you have honeydew on your cars, walks and lawn furniture, the problem is probably aphids. Give one of our Certified Arborists a call at 877-594-8733

TLC UPDATE

TLC bought a new crane in late spring and we have been using it a lot for removals. It makes many removals much quicker and safer. It is far less disruptive of client's landscape. It is such an advantage to be able to lift out all of a small to medium tree from a tight and busy space and set it out in the clear next to the chipper.

Visit our website at
www.treelovingcare.com