

Love Letter from . . .

# Tree Loving Care

Lubbock, Texas (806) 785-8733 • Midland, Texas (432) 620-8733  
Winter 2024 • Serving All The West Texas Tree Needs Since 1978



## Dear Friends and Fellow Tree Lovers,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope that God has richly blessed you and your family.

Tree Loving Care has had a great year. We are in our new office and would love to have everyone come by for a cup of coffee and a visit. I think you will like how it turned out as much as we do. You might even find a live edge table that you can't live without!

We do have good moisture in most of the area to start the winter. The exception is around Alpine and Marfa in far southwest Texas. If you have planted new trees, water as deep as the bottom of the original root ball) twice per week. If it's



freezing and you miss one watering by a day or two, it's not the end of the world, but don't miss two or three.

If planting a new tree or an entire landscape is in the works, come see our healthy trees. If you need to plant a windbreak row, 10 trees in a new

landscape or just one tree, TLC has some great trees. Truckload pricing is even better.

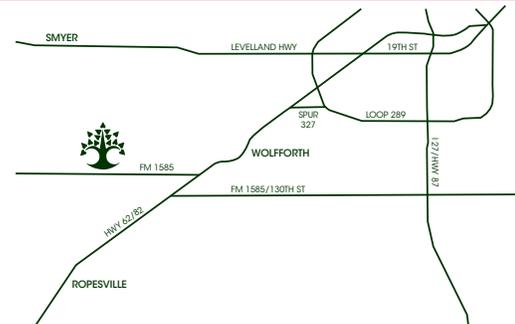
James Tuttle, Certified Arborist TX 0117A

## Tree Of The Quarter

**Shumard Red Oak, *Quercus shumardi*, is a large and relatively fast growing red oak that is well adapted across most of Texas. It will even do ok in Marfa and Alpine with proper supplemental watering. They are generally single trunk and dominantly upright. When found as multi trunk, it is generally because the grower planted two or more seedlings close enough together to create the multi trunk effect. Single trunk is superior in almost all cases.**

**Shumard Red Oak are well adapted to a variety of soils, from loams to clays. It will tolerate compaction and air pollution.**

**Tree Loving Care has some nice specimens. Stop by the Lubbock yard, 6 miles west of Wolforth on FM 1585 and pick out one for your yard. It is planting season.**



Visit our website at [www.tree-loving-care.com](http://www.tree-loving-care.com)



# TREE LOVING CARE

6740 E FM 1585 • Ropesville, Texas 79358

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**'Tree Talk for Texas'** on  
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## **GIVE YOUR TREES TLC**

Winter injury can come in several forms. Winter is a normally dry period in West Texas with average rainfall from November to March of just over one inch per month. That's barely what our soils will hold, not leaving much for plant use. This drying combined with freezing temperatures often kill the ends of pine needles. Pines and other evergreens give off more water to the atmosphere than other trees. Water them!! Not frequently but at least once or twice per winter.

Ice weighs a lot. Any time we get a freezing rain, we dramatically increase the chance of ice build up on trees. In just the right conditions, such as we had in January, 2015, from Lamesa south to Alpine, ice can increase the weight of trees ten times in a matter of a few hours. When you get that, trees break. It's tough duty, but getting out there with a long stick and knocking off some weight can save half of the tree from breaking. Or, melt some of the ice with a stream of water.

Some trees or shrubs that are narrowly upright branched can be saved by tying a rope around the whole plant for a few days.

Winter is also a great time to prune trees. It is the safest time to prune oaks.

## **TLC UPDATE**

James Tuttle went to Savannah, Georgia in October to help set up and judge the International Tree Climbing Championship. James was one of 5 scoring judges on Work Climb. That is one of 5 preliminary events. James Barton-Nall won his third consecutive world championship.

Tree Loving Care has plenty of firewood, a seasoned mixture of woods, stacked and ready for your fireplace for \$300 per full cord picked up at the yard at either yard, Lubbock or Midland. That is plus sales tax. Delivery available. We sell in full cords or any other amount that you want, down to single sticks!

## **CRITTERS AND CRUDS**

In a mild winter, some diseases such as powdery mildew and black spot on roses can become active.

Dormant oil is a great insect management tool. We normally apply this to help manage populations of mites and several insects. The best time is generally late December through mid-February. Call Tree Loving Care to have one of our Certified Arborists assess the needs of your trees and the entire landscape.

Visit our website at  
[www.treelovingcare.com](http://www.treelovingcare.com)