

Love Letter from . . .

Tree Loving Care

Lubbock, Texas (806) 785-8733 • Midland, Texas (432) 620-8733
Fall 2026 • Serving All The West Texas Tree Needs Since 1978

Dear Friends and Fellow Tree Lovers,

Last winter, during the planting season, we had very few people come out to look at trees. In the middle of June to mid July, we had 8 or 9 people come out to the nursery to find a tree to plant. They had driven by and seen some of our large beautiful trees and were ready to plant. I told everyone of them the same thing, 'I will try hard to sell you a tree, but I will try just as hard to get you to wait until the right time. That starts about November. If it cools early, maybe October.' I hope they will come back.

They main thing Tree Loving Care does is try to keep trees alive and thriving. I can't count how many calls we get every year to look at trees that someone planted the previous summer and now the client is wondering why the tree is struggling. Then we find out they have been watering for 10 minutes Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you have a 3-4 inch deep well around the new tree that is at least as big as the root ball, 10 minutes full open from the end of a hose is adequate. Ten minutes with the sprinkler system IS NOT! Water all new trees twice a week long enough to get the soil wet all the way to the bottom of the ball.

We moved 99 trees last February and March from one spot to another at the nursery and lost 2 of them. One was already struggling and probably should have just been removed. We water!

Some of my friends in Lubbock and a little east of Lubbock got 10 inches or more of rain this year. At my house west of Wolfforth, I have now had abut 5 inches since October of last year. All of Tree Loving Care's service area is pretty dry. I think Fort Davis is about the only area that has had even close to normal moisture. If you don't have a completely xeric landscape, please water.

When you receive this newsletter, I will be in Brazil helping set up and judge the Brazil Tree Climbing Championship. If you happen to be in the neighborhood of Parque Independencia, Sao Paulo, stop by and watch. You can meet a couple of my grandchildren.

James Tuttle, Certified Arborist TX0117A

Tree Of The Quarter

Black Locust, *Robinia psuedoacacia*, 'Purple Robe' is a pink flowering variety of the standard Black Locust. The flowers are a vibrant pink instead of the normal creamy white. Both are quite fragrant.

Black Locust in all varieties are medium size trees, growing to 30-40', tolerant of a wide variety of soils including tolerating poor soils. It is quite drought tolerant.

One knock against the tree is that it does have some tendency to root sprout and spread.



Visit our website at
www.treelovingcare.com



TREE LOVING CARE

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GIVE YOUR TREES TLC

Almost all areas that Tree Loving Care services are under some level of drought. It takes a lot of water to grow roots and fall is the main period of root growth for the year. Roots need water, nutrients and oxygen. Roots don't grow as well in compacted soil.

These are some of the reasons the Tree Loving Care focuses on making the soil healthy. This fall, we are increasing the amount of earthworm castings and compost in our deep root fertilization. TLC is scheduling that service right now. Permian Basin and points south are served out of the Midland office, 432-620-8733 and the South Plains is served from the Lubbock office, 806-785-8733. Call today.

TLC UPDATE

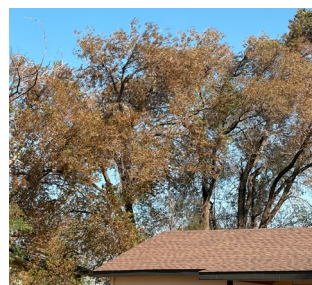
Tree Loving Care has been quite busy this summer. We are never too busy to learn and try new products, processes and techniques. The new process of making of making our fertilizer for the deep root fertilization is slight modification of the old process. We are adding more compost to enhance the amount of microbes in the mix and more worm casting for more enzymes. We think this will do an even better job of making soils more healthy.

Butch Lathey and James Evans both celebrate 17 years with TLC this fall.

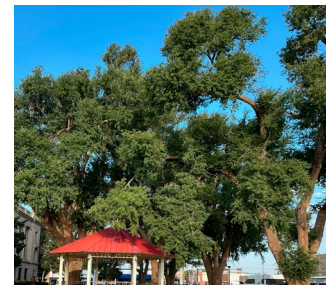
CRITTERS AND CRUDS

Some trees such as oaks and pecans are sticky with sap from heavy Aphid feeding. Aphids have a gut designed for flow and the excess sap flows down onto the lower part of the tree. The excess sap flows down onto the lawn furniture and windshield of every car.

Siberian Elms from Marfa to Manitoba are brown now. The Elm Leaf Beetle has eaten all the green stuff of the leaf, leaving only the skeleton of the veins. However, this insect has done all of the damage they will do this year and are already hunkering down for the winter. They over winter as adults in wood piles, under loose bark, any small spot they can get. Next march and April is the time to control them. Please take a look at the pictures. The green elms are at Hockley County Courthouse. We treated them in March with a systemic insecticide. The brown trees are untreated. Both pictures were taken September 1, 2026. Call Tree Loving Care to have one of our Certified Arborists discuss tree protection in your trees.



Untreated Trees



Treated Trees

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