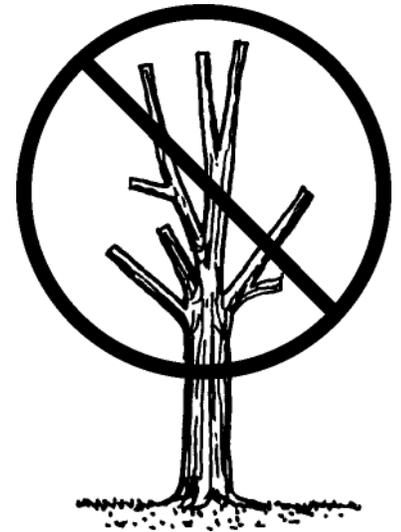


A Message from the Coldwater Tree Commission

Do Not Top Trees!



What is topping? Topping is the drastic removal or cutting back of large branches in mature trees. The tree is sheared like a hedge and the main branches are cut to stubs. Topping is often referred to as heading, stubbing, or dehorning. →

Why are trees topped? Many homeowners have their trees topped, when their trees reach heights they consider unsafe. They fear a strong wind might blow these large trees over. This fear is a mistake and is largely unjustified, for the extensive root system of a healthy tree, left undisturbed, provides adequate support for the tree.

8 Reasons Why You Should Not Top Your Trees

- 1. Starvation:** Topping removes so much of the tree's leafy crown that it dangerously reduces the tree's food-making ability.
- 2. Shock:** By removing the protective cover of the tree's canopy, bark tissue is exposed to the direct rays of the sun. The resultant scalding can cause the tree's death. Roots also die back due to the canopy loss.
- 3. Insects and Disease:** The exposed ends of topped limbs are highly vulnerable to insect invasion or decay fungi spores.
- 4. Weak Limbs:** New branches that grow from a stubbed limb are weakly attached and more liable to break from snow or ice weight.
- 5. Rapid New Growth:** Instead of controlling the height and spread of the tree, topping has the opposite effect. New branches are more numerous and often grow higher and faster than before.
- 6. Tree Death:** Some tree species can't tolerate major branch loss and still survive. At best, they remain weak, disease-prone and forever stunted.
- 7. Ugliness:** A topped tree is a disfigured tree. Even with new growth it never regains the grace and character of its species.
- 8. Cost:** The true cost of topping is often hidden – lower property values, expense of removal and replacement if the tree dies. The faster growth will lead to more frequent costly trimming in the future.

Village of Coldwater Approved Tree Care Companies

(Not Listed in Any Order)

Fitzwater Tree & Lawn Care

4617 Jaysville St. John Rd. Greenville, OH 45331
937-548-1705

www.fitzwatertreeandlawncare.com

Schmiesing Tree Service

07795 State Route 66 New Bremen, OH 45869
419-629-4224

www.schmiesingtreeservice.com

Tawa Tree Service Inc

1131 Sugar Mill Drive Ottawa, OH 45875
419-523-9001

www.tawatree.com

Tree Masters

6099 Beamsville Union City Rd. Greenville, OH 45331
877-615-8733

These companies have provided proof of workers compensation coverage and have sufficient liability insurance. They employ ISA Certified Arborists and have agreed to not perform any tree topping or lions-tailing within the village limits.

***Clause – The Village of Coldwater does not endorse any of these companies in any way nor are responsible for the work they perform on private property trees. ***