

# Plant Healthcare: A Professional Approach

## Our Expertise

Consulting Arborists at Rainbow Treecare are trained experts at diagnosing the specific pest problems your tree is facing. After reaching a diagnosis, the Consulting Arborist develops a targeted plan for treating these problems. Your Consulting Arborist can also recommend practices that increase tree health and reduce the stress that makes your tree more vulnerable to pest attack.

## Science-based Solutions

We have research-based protocols to treat over 100 insects and fungi that are common pests and diseases of trees in our area. We monitor pest development with scientific tracking models such as growing degree days. As new pest problems emerge, we stay up to date on developments through contacts in universities throughout the country.

## Environmental Concern

We recognize and share a concern for a healthy environment. For many cases of trees under attack from insects or fungi, the only practical option is to protect the trees through use of pesticides or fungicides.

We use the least toxic material that can achieve effective control of the pest or disease. We do not use "broadcast" sprays: we apply control measures with the proper dosage and timing to minimize exposure to beneficial insects and other non-targeted creatures. We can also make recommendations for "greener" alternatives in many cases when available or appropriate for the situation.

## Safety

We abide by all laws and label restrictions applying to the materials we use to control pests and diseases. Our plant health care technicians carry required licenses and use all appropriate protective gear on the job.

## Level of Control

We can never achieve 100% control of an insect or fungus. Under best conditions, we reduce the level of infection/infestation by 80-90%. In cases of fungal disease, controls must be applied every year. The treatment does not cure the disease; it only blocks the re-infection of new tissues on the tree each year.

Timing is critical for effective applications. We strive to make applications at the optimal time to control fungal disease and insect infestations. This can be very tricky to do in seasons with frequent rain and heavy wind. Weather conditions often do not cooperate. The same conditions that favor disease are also conditions that make it difficult to apply control measures.



## What You Can Do To Help

Anything that removes obstacles to plant health care technicians will aid us in getting your treatments done most effectively:

- Keep windows closed near the trees we will be treating
- Find alternate parking for vehicles near or under trees we will be treating
- Cover gardens, bird baths, etc. with tarps or sheets near or under trees we will be treating
- Move outdoor furniture or other items out from underneath trees we will be treating



Licensed applicator wearing protective gear.