

Caring for Your Oak

Oak trees thrive in the diverse landscapes of Minnesota. These majestic giants stand tall and proud, casting cool shade with their wide canopies. With their deep roots and enduring strength, oak trees have become beloved residents, adding a friendly and welcoming vibe to Minnesota’s natural environment. Minnesota is home to many oak species with the most common being red, white, pin, swamp white, and bur oak.

In the urban ecosystem, oak trees are susceptible to several common health issues and can benefit greatly from care practices that help them thrive on your property.

Common Health Issues to Look For

Tree Health Issue	Symptom You May See
Two-line chestnut borer	Dead branches from top
Oak wilt	Tree declining from top down
Anthracnose	Irregular dead patches on leaves
Bur oak blight	Distorted leaves (bur oak only)
Nutrient deficiency	Early yellowing leaves



White oak



Red oak

Oak Care Best Practices

Keeping your oak trees healthy is the first step in enjoying their benefits for years to come. Urban trees endure many stressors that compromise their health. Along with regular watering and mulching, the following treatments are recommended for ultimate tree resilience.

GOOD

- Proper Watering
- Mulching
- Two-Lined Chestnut Borer Protection

BETTER

- Proper Watering
- Mulching
- Two-Lined Chestnut Borer Protection
- Tree Growth Regulator: Cambistat®
- Tree Nutrition

BEST

- Proper Watering
- Mulching
- Two-Lined Chestnut Borer Protection
- Tree Growth Regulator: Cambistat®
- Tree Nutrition
- Root Enhancement Service

See back page for service descriptions.

Oak Care Terms and Tips

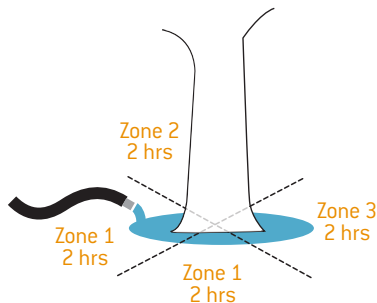
Proper Watering

After multiple years of drought conditions Minnesota trees need additional care to keep them healthy and strong. Watering is the most important way to help. Follow one of these 3 methods to keep your trees properly watered. *Repeat weekly during summer if not receiving at least 0.5" of rain.*

METHOD 1

GARDEN HOSE

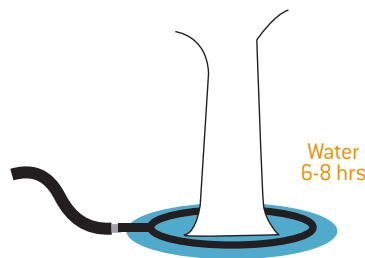
Set to trickle (more than a drip and less than a gurgle). Divide the tree area into 4 zones. Position the hose 2-3 feet from the trunk in Zone 1 and let water soak for 2 hours. Repeat for all sections.



METHOD 2

SOAKER HOSE

Wrap the hose around the base of the tree at least 1-2 feet from the trunk. Water 6-8 hours.

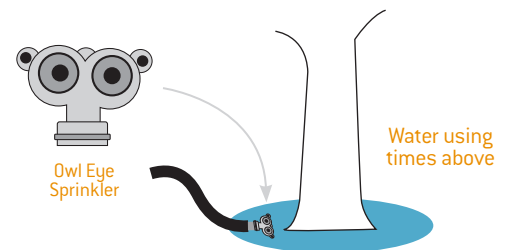


METHOD 3

OWL EYES SPRINKLER

Place under the tree about 2-3 feet from the base and water until soil feels moist, but not saturated.

- 15 minutes for a 10" diameter tree
- 20 minutes for a 15" diameter tree
- 30 minutes for a 20" or larger diameter tree



Mulching

Mulching is a way around several stressors common to our suburban and urban trees. Studies have shown that trees can grow up to five times more fine roots under mulch than they would under turf grass, which helps them find and uptake water and nutrients in the soil more efficiently.

Two-Lined Chestnut Borer Protection

Treating your tree to control or prevent two-lined chestnut borer is a very effective way to protect your oak from further damage. Treatment timelines will vary dependent upon the levels of tree infestation.

Tree Growth Regulator: Cambistat

This service increases a tree's resiliency through fine root production, stronger leaf tissue, and defense compounds to help against pests and disease.

Tree Nutrition

Our tree nutrition services provide supplemental fertilizer nutrients to improve tree health, increase resistance to pests and diseases, and better hold water and nutrients from the soil.

Root Enhancement Service

Urban trees are faced with compacted soils and poor soil conditions that they wouldn't encounter in the forest. Our Root Enhancement Service promotes root growth and improved tree health by replicating forest soils with organic matter and creating the perfect growing environment.