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RTEC Insider

WE MOVED! Finally settled into our new office space and adding the final touches, it has been a great way to end the year. As they say, "Out with the old and in with the new."

New Address: **2828 Mary St.
Falls Church, VA 22042**

TIP OF THE MONTH

RTEC Treecare has been successfully providing a new Plant Health Care treatment this season, Winter Burn Protection application. Read more about the advantage of these applications below and [contact your Arborist](#) to discuss if your plants can benefit from the treatments as well.

What is a Winter Burn Protection Application?

The application creates a barrier on plant leaves to help reduce the loss of water during the winter. Moisture loss due to exceedingly dry, cold air, and wind can create an unhealthy environment for many trees and shrubs. The Winter Burn/Winter Freeze Protection treatment slows this process down creating a glossy shield on plants such as rhododendrons, yews, holly, or arborvitae. This can especially hold true when more than one application is completed, typical recommendation is for three applications to provide maximum results.

Without the help of the Winter Burn Protection treatment, leaves can scorch or a plant could even die. These treatments have been known to help reduce the incidence of certain diseases, such as downy mildew on zinnias and black spot and powdery mildew on roses. The first lines of defense in fending off plant diseases, however, should be plant selection, site modification, and pruning.

When to apply Winter Burn Protection Application?

If you see browning of foliage (in late winter or spring) or an entire side of a tree has dead foliage then your tree or shrub may benefit from the Winter Burn Protection Application. This kind of treatment begins in November and ends in March. Even during the growing season, a plant might not be able to keep up with water lost through its leaves and could benefit from the Winter Burn Protection application.



Waiting Area



Conference Room



Administrative Office

RTEC Tree Trivia

Every month, in the interest of bringing informative and interesting facts to our clients, RTEC will pose a tree-related trivia question with a chance to win a prize. A drawing will be held and a winner will be selected from the correct answers submitted, with the answer and winner to be announced in the following newsletter!

TREES IN THE NEWS

An endangered American Elm tree in Back Bay, MA area remains standing after residents joined forces and appealed to their friends in high places.

The tree has been a part of the neighborhood since 1881. One of the residents even called it "a friend", as he has been looking at the tree out of his home's window since 1976.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the entire article.

TREE FACTS

Christmas Tree Recycling

There are approximately 25 - 30 million Real Christmas Trees sold in the U.S. every year. Almost all of these come from Christmas Tree plantations. Often, Christmas Trees are grown on soil that doesn't support other crops.

The disposal of the millions of trees used for holiday decoration is a hot topic when January comes around. Authentic Christmas Trees are renewable, recyclable resource. Artificial trees on the other hand contain non-biogradable plastics. There are more than 4,000 local Christmas Tree programs throughout the United States.

One commonly known benefit of recycling trees is to produce more mulch for gardening purposes. Environmentalists also encourage residents of rural areas to convert their Christmas trees into habitats for wildlife. Residents may simply decorate the trees with snacks and place them in their backyards for animals to enjoy.

A national survey showed authentic trees are recycled for five main types of large-scale uses:

1. chipping,
2. beachfront erosion prevention,
3. fish habitat,
4. lake and river shoreline stabilization,
5. river delta sedimentation management.

If you are interested in recycling your Christmas Tree, visit <http://earth911.com> and search for recycling centers in your area.