

10.11

trunkline



630.293.5444

Chilly Weather...

Not too cold to prune, remove or cable brace your trees.

Ask about our winter rates.

Falling Leaves....

If your trees haven't had their annual fertilization, it's not too late.

Contact our office for a proposal.

Dormant Trees....

Now that the leaves are gone, add color to your landscape with our Holiday lighting.

Call us!

It was a hot and stormy night... more like, SEASON

As I think back on this past spring and summer, my first thought is “Mother Nature is angry!” What a season! Several storms were unleashed upon us one after another. We hardly had time to recover, let alone get our heads above water, literally. The nation has experienced such extremes this year from heat and drought to flooding, as well as tornados and earthquakes. Locally we've dealt with the heavy thunderstorms which produced a lot of rain and wind resulting in storm damaged trees.

Our phones rang off the hook. Storm, after storm, after storm. At one point, we almost thought it was “nice” to have two weeks in between storms, especially after we were hit with more severe weather two days in a row! We heard the stories of our clients with trees on homes, in their living rooms, blocking their doorways and driveways, limbs dangling dangerously over sidewalks and roofs; the scenarios were endless. My heart went out to each and every one of them. Not only did they have to deal with storm damaged trees, patching roofs and insurance, they had to find a way to stay cool as many were without power and the days and nights were H-O-T, HOT!! Some of us at KTS were not exempt from this. I

received a frantic call from my husband regarding broken trees, downed fences, hole in roof and wires pulled from the house.

We did our very best to accommodate our loyal customers as well as new clients. Our Certified Arborists had to prioritize their visits based on the information the office staff collected or was given to them. Our field and sales team worked 6-7 days a week and 11+ hours a day. We are very fortunate to have such experienced and dedicated teammates and well maintained equipment as we were able to dispatch crews right away and complete the work safely. With the amount of calls, work was not performed on a first-come-first-served basis. We were running triage, assisting the clients with the most severe damage first.

If we didn't say it then, I want to express it to you now, we appreciate the patience of our clients with their normally scheduled work. Their scheduled dates had to be pushed back weeks in order for us to take care of the people with storm damaged trees.

The fortitude of our team through this past season and the way we cared for all our clients makes me proud to be a member of the KTS family.

Betsy Meyers
Customer Service

“Very good emphasis on Safety.” –Vince S.

The Journey to Sydney

Our very own Todd Kramer, Director of Field Operations and seven-time Illinois Arborist Association Tree Climbing Champion, came away with his 8th state Championship title this past May in Wood Dale. In addition, two other competitors from Kramer Tree Specialists, Jason Diehl and Rob Kraker, finished in the top five, 2nd and 5th places, respectively. Also, KTS retained the fourth ComEd Corporate Cup for the second year in a row!

With this win, Todd punched his ticket to compete in the International Tree Climbing Championship in Sydney, Australia. Todd, along with Rick Thomas, Director of Operations, traveled Down Under in July for the competition. In the

height of our summer, Australia was in their winter season which meant cool temperatures and rain.

The weather did delay the preliminary trials, but the event continued. Out of the 44 talented and skilled male competitors from around the globe, Todd fell into the middle of the pack. The highlights of his trip were learning new climbing and rigging techniques, seeing old friends and spending one-on-one time with one of his mentors, Graeme McMahon, discussing tree risk assessment.

For competition results go to: www.itcc.isa-arbor.com/results/2011results



Todd Kramer, preliminary Work Climb, Sydney, Australia.



Rob Kraker, Jason Diehl and Todd Kramer holding Corporate Cup at ILTCC in Wood Dale, Illinois.

“...each time I have been impressed with the overall professional delivery. I would recommend your services to all.” –Ward H.



October Is Adopt A Shelter Dog Month

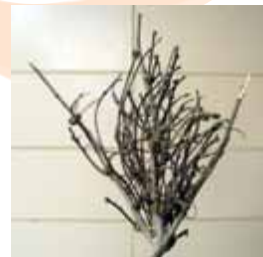
It is always worth repeating in our newsletter that shelters are at capacity and need your help. You can assist the shelters with monetary donations or volunteering to help clean, walk dogs, give cats and kittens attention or donate your professional services. All contributions are very much appreciated. Check out your local shelter.

**PLEASE
DON'T SHOP,
ADOPT**

Witch's Broom

Witch's broom is caused by a number of factors, including infection by fungi or phytoplasmas, infestation of mites or dwarf mistletoe, genetic mutations, or adverse environmental conditions that kill the terminal bud of shoots.

Those caused by genetic mutation may be stable allowing for them to be propagated vegetatively as dwarf cultivars. Some common trees that develop witch's broom include oak, hackberry, hickory, spruce, hemlock and pine.



Exterminate the EAB creeping around this newsletter.
How many can you find?



Now this is Scary!



You may have noticed the increased numbers of dead or dying Ash trees in your neighborhood.

More than likely the Emerald Ash Borer is the culprit. Call your KTS Certified Arborist to verify. As we battle this insect, here are things you can do:

- Preventative application: Ask your KTS representative about the options we offer as a preventative and check our Plant Health Care page on our web site.
- Don't move firewood!
www.dontmovefirewood.com
- Report infected trees to the Department of Agriculture. To find your county's extension office number go to www.agr.state.il.us
- Educate yourself and spread the word.
www.kramertree.com or
www.stopthebeetle.com

Holiday Lighting:

Kramer Tree Specialists, Inc. has become a Certified Member of Holiday Bright Lights. This assures our clients the professionalism and excellent service you are accustomed to as we help you create the magic of the holidays. We provide installation, take down, maintenance and storage of your holiday light displays.

Don't put that wheelbarrow away! Fall is the Optimum Season to Apply Mulch

Call now to schedule your delivery or visit our office and we will load your truck or trailer.

Mulch types available:

- **Special Blend Mulch:** made from shredded brush, dark brown in color
- **Color Enhanced Red:** made from shredded wood products, brick red in color
- **Color Enhanced Brown:** made from shredded wood products, chocolate brown in color
- **Leaf Mulch:** shredded leaves. Wonderful for amending soil.

FEATURED TREE OF THE SEASON

Shagbark Hickory

CARYA OVATA



Carya ovata, (translates to "the oval nut"), the Shagbark Hickory is a common hickory in the eastern United States and southeast Canada. During the 18th century, this specie was very important to the survival of the pioneer. They burned the wood for warmth, cooked and smoked their food, used branches and tree trunks for building, and ate the fruit (hickory nuts) for food. The characteristic bark was even used as a textile for home spun clothing. Sadly, the decline of the Shagbark Hickory was mainly due to the constant use in the daily lives of the pioneers.

This large deciduous tree will live up to 200 years. Mature Shagbarks are easy to recognize as their name implies; they have shaggy bark. The Shagbark Hickory's nut is edible and has a very sweet taste. The following is a listing of the critters which nibble on hickory nuts: squirrels, raccoons, chipmunks, mice, red foxes, rabbits, and bird species such as mallards, wood ducks, bobwhites, and wild turkey.

The attractive features of these Shagbark Hickory trees include golden fall foliage, novel bark for winter interest and edible landscaping.

"I am a repeat customer because of the expertise & courtesy of the crew as well as the fair price & the completion of the proposal/work." -Gail O.



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Updates

The new database is up and running. We can now e-mail Invoices and Proposals directly from our system

Website updated
Safety & Community
Involvement pages added

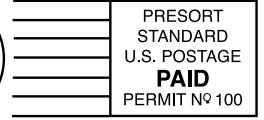
www.kramertree.com

We're Blogging!
See Mary Jane's "Safety Tips"
and follow our blog for the
latest updates in tree care

We LOVE Autumn and Halloween, but don't forget, Winter is around the corner and with that, Holiday Lighting and Winter Rates on tree care! Contact our office for more information.

APPLYING KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE PRODUCES RESULTS

Kramer Tree Specialists, Inc.
300 Charles Court, West Chicago, IL 60185



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*Jan Kramer
Don't Shop - Adopt*

dogs if they are anxious, fearful or over-excited. She was not impressed, but it did seem to calm her a little bit. Joe was getting pretty weary of staying up with her at night, so as a back-up we asked our vet to prescribe her a sedative. The next storm, which was predicted to be violent, we gave her the medication and put on her Thundershirt. Guess what? NO LIGHTNING OR THUNDER, JUST RAIN! She missed her "walk around" for the night as she seemed perfectly content to lay on the sofa and enjoy her little dream world.

What is unique

about cats is

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actually be

themselves.

Alisha Everett

What is unique about cats is their ability to actually be themselves. Alisha Everett

Maybe due to the quantity and severity of the storms, she now becomes panic-stricken when the lightning and thunder arrive. The obvious symptoms include panting and not being able to stay still;

The worst cat I ever had was

Marilyn Peterson

she was inconsolable! So I purchased a Thundershirt in hopes it may help her when storms arrive. Thunder-shirts apply constant pressure which has a dramatic calming effect for most

in March, we adopted a cat named Buster from Anderson Animal Shelter.

Our cat Gus accepted him immediately and Buster seemed to know this was home. For three weeks he followed Joe around like a puppy, who knows why, but Joe was enjoying it. That came to an end and now he will sit with us, Gus or wherever he wants! He is such a sweet boy. Our dog Sparkle was not concerned in the least with our new arrival and Buster picked up on that quickly. They will now lay down together on the sofa for a nap, and Buster gets the pillow – first come first served!

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Woody Says...

