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Winter is for Pruning

Leafless trees and resting landscapes are ripe for pruning.

A tree pruning order may be the furthest thing from your mind. But it shouldn't. Why should you have your trees pruned right now?

Your trees are leafless...

Without leaves, a trained arborist is much better equipped to assess the tree's structure. Our home or office building was designed and built. The structure is stable from year to year. But each spring, a tree "remodels" itself – growing new branches and sometimes shedding the old. Branches may be damaged in storms. Pruning takes into account the tree's ever changing structure reducing over-extended branches and removing weaker stems. During the dormant season, structurally weakened branches are much more easily assessed and corrected.

Bugs & diseases will be late to dinner...

There is a relationship between tree energy cycles, pruning and pests. Trees have their own profit and loss statement and fiscal year. The fiscal year is known as the growing season. They make their energy (money) during the summer and then use that to sustain themselves throughout the winter and start of the growing season. Why is this important? Invading pests have evolved around this energy cycle and staging their attack when the trees are most vulnerable – spring. Pruning and the scent of freshly pruned wood may attract pests. Pruning your trees in the winter will make them much less appetizing for insects and diseases.

Your landscape is asleep...

The ground is hard, the lawn is dormant, and your annual flower display is yet to be lovingly tended. Outdoor social events are yet to be planned. Bulky pruning implements and equipment are easily brought in and maneuvered in the dormant landscape. Large heavy branches are easier to move about in the winter. Wintertime is the most efficient time to prune.

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