

# A HEALTHY TREE is a HAPPY TREE

## WE CARE... TREE CARE

### Fall Cankerworm

**Description:** The Fall Cankerworm has four life stages, egg, caterpillar, pupa, adult. The adult male is a small brown moth and the adult female grey, with reduced wings, and unable to fly. At the first cold temperatures in the late fall (late November), the adult moths leave their cocoons in the soil. Female moths crawl up the trunks of trees or any vertical object, looking for the highest point or branches on which to lay eggs.

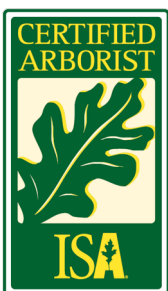


FALL cankerworm tiny caterpillars emerge in the early spring when leaves just begin to open (around late February) and feed immediately. Feeding may continue well into April and cankerworm larvae can blow or drop to an adjacent branch or tree by silk strands. The "inch worms" measure up to one inch in length and may be light green or dark green. When the caterpillars have completed feeding, they will string down to the ground on a silken thread and burrow into the soil to make a new cocoon. In North Carolina, outbreaks have been rare, except parts of Charlotte (Mecklenburg County).

**Symptoms:** Damage begins with small, ragged holes being chewed into the leaves. Mature larvae skeletonize entire leaves. Damaged leaves may appear burned from a distance. There is significant aesthetic devaluation that accompanies cankerworm damage, however, especially with regard to ornamental plantings.

**Control:** Tree banding in November and December can be an effective way to block wingless females from crawling to the tops of trees to lay eggs. Traps should be in place about mid-November through all January. A sticky agent such as Tanglefoot™ is applied to a band around the tree, rather than the tree itself to protect the bark.

Frady Tree Care takes great pride and passion to care for your trees. Trees are TREEMENDOUS renewable resources. They are valuable in respect to life and your landscape. We are here to serve your tree care needs by preserving and enhancing the quality of your property through tree care education and services.



Please call 888-853-8733 to schedule a free consultation with a certified arborist from Frady Tree Care. Thank you for visiting [www.fradytreecare.com](http://www.fradytreecare.com).  
TREE CARE PROFESSIONALS

