

A HEALTHY TREE is a HAPPY TREE

WE CARE . . . TREE CARE

Lightning Damage

Lightning is one of nature's most powerful forces. Lightning can have devastating effects on people, property and trees. Each strike of lightning can reach more than five miles in length, and produce temperatures greater than 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit and an electrical charge of 100 million volts. At any given moment, there are 1,800 thunderstorms in progress somewhere across the earth.

Trees occupy a particularly susceptible position in the landscape, since they are often the tallest objects. Tall trees are the most vulnerable, especially those growing alone in open areas such as on hills, in pastures or near water. Many of these trees line our community streets and surround our homes, schools and businesses.



A tree's biological functions and/or structural integrity are affected by lightning strikes. Along the path of the strike, sap boils, steam is generated and cells explode in the wood, leading to strips of wood and bark peeling or being blown off the tree. If only one side of the tree shows evidence of a lightning strike, the chances of the tree surviving and eventually closing the wound are good. However, when the strike completely passes through the tree trunk, with splintered bark and exploded wood on each side, trees are usually killed.

Generally, when lightning damage has created hazardous broken branches, corrective pruning should be done. However, waiting two to six months is recommended before doing major and expensive corrective pruning to assess whether the tree will recover. If during this waiting period, the tree shows no obvious signs of decline, then the pruning is probably worth the expense. Commonly prescribed practices are water management, bark repair, pruning, fertilization, pest management and tree monitoring.

Frady Tree Care takes great pride and passion to care for your trees. Trees are TREMENDOUS 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.
TREE CARE SPECIALISTS

