

Are your trees in trouble?

✓ Check your trees for damage or other trouble signs.

Falling trees and limbs cause millions of dollars in damage each year.



V-shaped forks are more likely to split than U-shape ones

Trees that look one-sided or lean significantly

Limbs in contact with power lines

Crossing branches that rub or interfere with one another

Mushrooms growing from bark, indicating a decayed or weakened stem

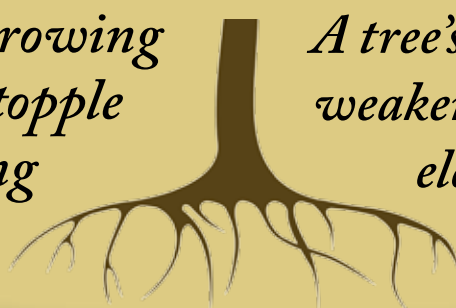
Cracks in the trunk or major limbs

Branches hanging over the house near the roof

Hollow and decayed trees

Check to ensure trees are firmly rooted in the ground:

A shallow-rooted tree growing in soft soil can easily topple onto a house during strong winds.



A tree's roots can also become weakened after heavy rains, elevating this risk.

Good pruning can prevent many problems but overpruning can significantly weaken a tree. Prompt removal of diseased, damaged or dead plant parts helps limit the spread of harmful insects and disease, as well as reducing the possibility of future storm damage.



Source: *Reducing Tree Damage*, Institute for Business and Home Safety (www.disastersafety.org)

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