



**Q:** What do arborists do in the winter, do you work all year?

*A: Yes, we work on trees year-round. Although it may seem surprising, the winter is an excellent time for many tree care services. I like to prune dormant apple trees and do any heavy pruning of ornamental trees or shrubs in the winter months. When it comes to heavy pruning, we can remove significantly more in the winter than we can in the summer. Winter is also a good time to prune because trees have leaves not only to feed themselves, but also to shade themselves. If as a result of heavy summertime pruning, the interior crown of a tree is exposed to the burning summer sun, the newly exposed bark can be injured or killed. This effect, called "sun scald", is not likely in the winter because the sun's rays are not as intense and the bark has hardened off for the colder months.*

*Another reason winter is a good pruning time is because trees are dormant and pruning wounds are unlikely to be attacked because most pests are dormant as well.*

*The frozen conditions of winter can also be helpful in tree removals. Hard ground gives our trucks better access in otherwise delicate areas. We are able to work safer, faster and save our customers money through our increased efficiency.*

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