



Celebrating 22 Years!

ask the landscape professional
Linda K. Lillie of Sprigs & Twigs

Welcome to my weekly series!

Feel free to send me questions you'd like to have me answer and I will do my best to address the ones of most general interest.

EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS
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QUESTION THIS WEEK:

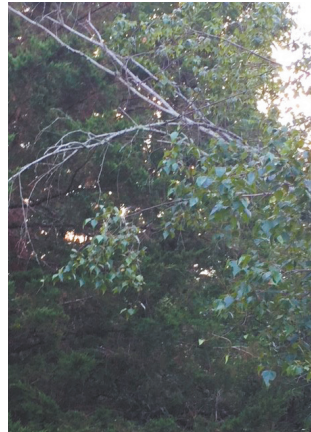
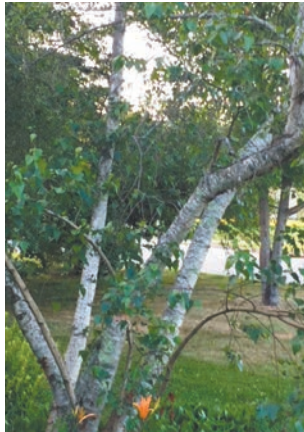
Dear Linda,

These are pictures of my birch tree which seems to be dying branch by branch. There is a green tufted mossy/grassy growth on some of the branches. The branches with the most growth seem to be doing the worst. What do you advise? Thank you, Kathy

Linda's Answer:

Hi Kathy,

Unfortunately, you have a Gray Birch tree which only lives about 20 years. It is dying a slow death and there's nothing that can be done about the existing tree. The good news is that



you can rejuvenate the tree next spring by cutting the existing trunks (stems) to the ground. New stems will emerge from the stumps to form a new multi-stem tree. The best time to do this is April-June when the sap begins to flow from up from the roots. I would also suggest you add some compost and/or leaf litter around the stumps to introduce extra nutrients. Good Luck.

Linda K. Lillie has been President of Sprigs & Twigs, Inc. for the last 22 years. She is a graduate of Connecticut College in Botany, an accredited NOFA Organic Land Care Professional, a Connecticut Master Gardener and a national award winning landscape designer for her design and installation projects.

Sprigs & Twigs is scheduling appointments for Garden Design, Landscape Maintenance, Tree Care Services, Custom Stonework and Custom Carpentry Services.

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