DISCERNING TREE TROUBLES

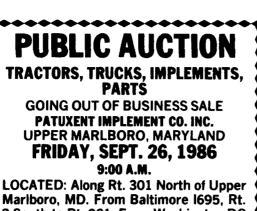
Check your trees for signs of poor health now. Trees in trouble usually give some warning signs of intenal or external injury. By looking for problems in the Fall, we can begin correcting the factors which cause stress to our trees all year round.

First, check your large, old trees for signs of internal rot that could weaken the tree and cause all or part of it to fall. Look especially for large open wounds, branch stubs that are poorly healed, fungi, open cracks, patches of dead bark, dead branches, dead tops, insect holes, bird nest holes and holes made by wildlife. Often root rot diseases are involved when a number of older trees like the native white pines begin to die each year. Often, these trees were infected many years ago and have reached a point where stresses like our current year drought cause the final decline. Unfortunately, there is no control for root diseases.

Injury to a tree's roots caused by construction activities can often take five to fifteen years to finally kill the tree. Consider removing large trees growing close to a house especially when they lean toward it. Prune out large branches that grow over the house that could break during a storm or under a load of snow

Earlier than normal leaf drop can also alert us of a problem with our trees. This year many trees lost their leaves early. Often, there was no specific signs of insect or disease associated with the early leaf drop. Many times the problem is related to moisture caused by stress drought conditions over the summer months. Trees like the Golden rain tree, Dogwoods, Japanese Zelkova, Sugar and Norway Maple, Honeylocust and Linden lose their leaves early in the Fall when drought stress occurs.

Native sugar maples in the Northeast are experiencing some additional problems. This past year, they produced a heavy seed crop which may have indicated inadequate moisture or a lack of sunshine. Often roadpaving reduces water supplies to the trees and increases the reflected heat. Chemicals in diesel or gasoline exhaust, brake fluids and anti-freeze from leaks may be causing additional stress to street or woodland trees. Trees like the white birches and dogwoods are externely sensitive to their immediate surroundings. These trees often do well in the wild but in a home landscape die without the proper soil, water and air conditions.



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JD 317 LG Trtr., NH S-14 LG Trtr., 2- Ariens S-14 LGT, M.F. 12 LGT, MF 7 LGT, JD 68 and 70 Riding Mowers, Ditchwitch Ground Saw, Lawn Boy Rotary, Lawn Aerator, Kut Kwick w/Wisc. Engine, Power Blower, Gravely Grdn. Trtr., Blade, and More.

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NOTE: After many years in farm equipment sales and service, Mr. Dixon is retiring and going out of business. Everything will be sold and must be removed. There will be additions and deletions from sale listing due to daily retail business before auction date.

TERMS: Cash or Check w/Bank Letter of Credit — Full Settlement Day of Sale.

> Sale For: **ROBERT A. DIXON, PRES.** Patuxent Implement Co. Inc. 3030 S.E. Crain Highway Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 (301) 627-3952

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