

Learning Differences

FLEMINGTON, N.J. — Does your child have attention deficit disorder (ADD)?

A program on ADD and related learning differences will be held at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Center on Route 31, on May 7, 7-9 p.m.

Participants will be taught the root causes of learning and attention problems and how these problems can be eliminated or lessened. Instructor is Janine Burnham, neuroeducational consultant.

Fee is \$3. Call (908) 788-1342 for more information.

Investment Program

FLEMINGTON, N.J. — A class on "How to invest in index funds," will be taught at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Center on May 11, 7-9 p.m.


Some of the topics addressed will be on how to choose tax effi-

cient, low-cost funds that can be a complete portfolio or to complement other investments.

Instructor is Dr. Barbara O'Neill, certified financial planner.

Fee is \$3. Call (908) 788-1342 for more information.

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First, inspect the tree's general appearance. The trunk should be reasonably straight and the crown of the tree should be symmetrical. Closely examine the crown. No branches

should extend from the trunk at angles less than 45 degrees. Narrow branch angles cause structural problems in wind storms as the tree ages.

Closely observe the tree's trunk. Problem areas are easily recognizable. Check for signs of cuts, scrapes or recent pruning. A wound that is more than a quarter of the trunk's circumference is too large and can affect the tree's future health.

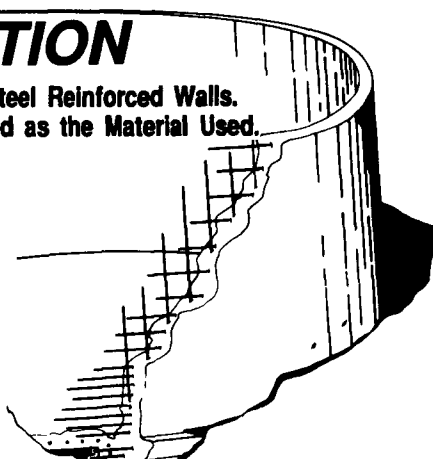
Look for other flaws. Check for areas that are discolored, sunken or swollen. This indicates problems beneath the bark. For borer damage, check for small circular holes in the bark. Severe frost cracks that cause permanent damage can result from shallow cracks in a young tree's bark.

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The general size of the tree can be an accurate indication of quality. Measure the trunk diameter at six inches above ground level. Then measure the size of the root ball. This helps determine an estimate on how tall the tree should be in the nursery.

The size of the root ball should be roughly proportional to the crown, or the area of branches spread on the tree. If the root ball is too small, it may not have enough roots to successfully reestablish the tree at your home.

A trunk diameter of 1 1/2 inches translate to a tree between 9- and 13- feet tall. The root ball should be at least 20 inches in diameter. For a trunk diameter of two inches, a tree should be between 13- and 15- feet tall. The root ball should be at least 24 inches in diameter. Lastly, a 3-inch trunk diameter should be found on a tree, between 14- and 16- feet tall. The root ball, should be at least 32 inches in diameter.


Lastly, feel the surface of the root ball on trees that have been balled and burlapped. The root ball should be firm and solid. Check for pruned roots and girdling roots. These are roots that wrap around the lower trunk. Girdling roots are often found about half an inch below the soil line.

Once you buy and plant your tree, keep the root system moist all spring and summer.

For more information on tree planting, ask for special circular 266 "Planting Ornamentals" from your Extension Office.

Any questions concerning this article can be directed to Tom Becker at 840-7408.

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