



ED DOLPHIN
CERTIFIED ARBORIST #TX1188A



THE WOODLANDS TREE EXPERTS

Hello, Tree Enthusiasts!

We're seeing a bit of pine and bark beetle action in the area. While there isn't a significant outbreak, it's essential to stay vigilant because these beetles can kill trees if not caught early.



JULY NEWSLETTER

Our trees are currently low-stress, thanks to the recent rains, which also means they need some pruning. This is a great opportunity to prepare for hurricane season, as thinned and pruned trees are less likely to have fallen or broken limbs during storms.



It's crucial to remember that trees deal with stress for several years. Here are some signs to watch out for:

- **Thinning Canopy:** A sign that the tree is under stress.
- **Losing Leaves:** Similar to a pay cut, the tree is reducing its load.
- **Overabundance of Fruit:** For fruit trees, this could indicate stress. Pines might produce more pine cones, and oaks could see an increase in acorns. This is a survival strategy to ensure species continuation if the tree doesn't survive the stress.

Be aware, an abundance of fruit might also be due to nutrient-rich soil. A trained arborist can distinguish between stress-related fruiting and a nutrient surplus.

Currently, our trees are in energy-saving mode. They're storing up for a big push in spring to create new leaves, which requires a tremendous amount of energy.

They're also gathering energy to survive the current season and make it through summer. Think of it as having a long-term savings account (spring push) and a checking account to pay the bills (current store to survive summer).

Keep an eye on your trees and consider pruning to help them stay healthy and resilient through the seasons.



TREE SPOTLIGHT

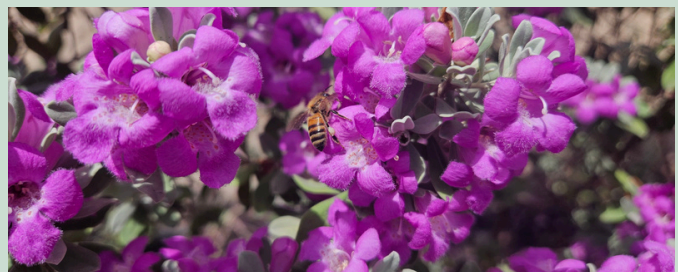


Texas Sage Bush

These tough, desert-adapted plants provide the backbone for many desert gardens. Mostly evergreen, clean and hard to kill, Texas sage is indispensable to anyone designing a colorful, low-maintenance landscape.

It absolutely thrives in the hot, muggy Houston weather. Flowering coincides with periods of high humidity. It grows 6 feet tall and as wide. The scientific name of this plant is *Leucophyllum frutescens*, although it has several common names including "Texas Ranger."

Thanks Christen for the photos!

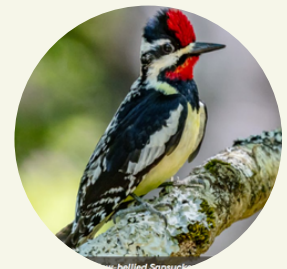


STUMP THE ARBORIST



Q: I'm seeing strange holes in my tree. What insect causes these and will it kill my tree?

A: You've got yellow belly sap suckers! These birds make 1in. diameter holes around the tree in quarter of an inch increments in a straight line around the tree (little engineers). Be sure to verify the damage with an arborist before you cut down a tree that may wrongly be misclassified as infected with boring insects. The yellow belly sap suckers bore just deep enough to get the sap to ooze, which attracts bugs, and the bird eats the bugs and drinks the sap. It's dinner and a drink all in one! It's not beneficial to the tree but it doesn't hurt or kill it.



UPCOMING CLASSES

The Lone Star College Academy for Lifelong Learning (A.L.L.) is a \$25 membership community that offers free and low-cost classes, events and activities for adults age 50 and older. Choose from technology, health and wellness, financial planning, community service projects, literary discussion groups, genealogy, arts and crafts, history, and more. **More information** at <https://www.lonestar.edu/all>

September

05

10-12pm

"WE SURVIVED SUMMER, NOW WHAT?"

Plants For All Seasons Nursery

Address: 21328 TX-249,
Houston, TX 77070

Speaker: Ed Dolphin



October

10

10-12pm

"WE SURVIVED SUMMER, NOW WHAT?"

Lone Star College–Tomball

Address: 30555 Tomball Pkwy,
Tomball, TX 77375

Speaker: Ed Dolphin



October

11

10-12pm

"WE SURVIVED SUMMER, NOW WHAT?"

Lone Star College–Montgomery

Address: 3200 College Park Dr,
Conroe, TX 77384

Speaker: Ed Dolphin



October

13

10-12pm

"WE SURVIVED SUMMER, NOW WHAT?"

Lone Star College - Cypress Center

Address: 19710 Clay Rd, Katy, TX
77449

Speaker: Ed Dolphin



October

15

9-11am

"WE SURVIVED SUMMER, NOW WHAT?"

Lone Star College–North Harris

Address: 2700 W W Thorne Dr,
Houston, TX 77073

Speaker: Ed Dolphin

