A Chemical Romance part II

Last week we talked about those times or thresholds when insect infestations and disease in trees need to be treated with chemical control. We also acknowledged that most people will call a professional applicator for this. More homeowners are becoming “do it yourselfers” when it comes to treating their own lawns. The down side to folks treating their yards is many products are harmful to trees. Take weed and feed for example, both liquid and granular. The feed part of the product is fertilizer that both grass and trees can use. The weed part of many weed and feeds is usually a broadleaf herbicide and trees are in the broadleaf category. This is not an issue if your yard is all grass but like most yards, there is a tree or two if not many incorporated in the landscape. The issue lies in the fact that many trees are planted in the lawn and their roots are right below the grass that is being treated with weed and feed. Weed and feeds are especially harmful to trees when applied in the spring. Also, the more frequently they are applied the more impact to the trees. I suggest staying away from the entire dripline of your tree with weed and feed products. Dripline is defined by the farthest spread of limbs. Anything inside that is considered the drip zone. I suggest only spot spraying inside the drip zone if you must at all. Further, although it might me tempting to go after spring dandelions, just dig those out inside the drip zone of your trees. Use the weed and feed spray later in the summer to treat them and the stubborn clovers that plague us all. Remember that trees root often extends much further than their dripline. More about this, moss killers, preemergence and soil sterilant in the weeks to follow.

# For further questions, quotes and consultations, give us a call today and thank you for your patience with our backlog!