

## Signs of a Sick Tree

**Trees cannot audibly speak to you, so listed below are the 9 visible signs they may show you indicating they are sick!**

1. Sudden dying of top of tree.
2. Discoloration of leaves/needles
  - a. Lighter shade of green
  - b. Yellowing
  - c. Brown around outer sides of leaves.
3. Wilting of foliage
  - a. Spots on leaves
  - b. Pustules on leaves
  - c. Holes in leaves
  - d. Insects on leaves
4. Twig and branch die back.
5. Abnormal growth on twigs, branches or trunk
6. Seepage of sap on bark-with or without an odor
7. Insects on branches and leaves. Presence of a caterpillar type worm indicates insect infestation.
8. Mushroom type growths on lower base of tree trunk, or even in the ground, near the tree base.
9. Heavier foliage in one area of the crown; such as fewer leaves in extreme top of crown as compared to the lower part of the crown.

### **Basic things to remember when trying to grow trees:**

1. Cankers, a lesion on stems or trunks characterized by dead tissue, often sunken in the center or with raised growth around the edges. Caused by natural and man-made openings that airborne pathogens enter that lead to vascular plugging.
2. Insects are the basic carriers of disease pathogens and every tree has from one to five natural enemies every year. Therefore, it is most important to predispose trees from insects. Through advanced chemistry and techniques, these insects can be controlled all season long

An increase in soil acids beyond limits means a decrease in the supply of certain plant nutrients. At the other extreme, as the alkalinity increases the roots are less able to absorb micro-nutrients such as iron, manganese, zinc, copper and boron because these minerals are insoluble under these conditions which results in yellowing of the leaves. Most trees grown best on soils having a slightly acid reaction under a PH of 5.5 to 7.