



truckee meadows
COMMUNITY
FORESTRY
COALITION

TREE TOPICS in our community

Participants

- City of Reno Recreation & Parks Commission
- City of Reno Urban Forestry Commission
- City of Sparks
- Community Services Agency
- Dale Carlon Consulting, LLC
- Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful
- Kennedy-Jenks Consultants
- Los Verdes Arborists
- The Nature Conservancy
- Nevada Division of Forestry
- Nevada Landscape Association
- Nevada Shade Tree Council
- NV Energy
- Signature Landscapes
- Truckee Meadows Water Authority
- University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
- Washoe County Commission
- Washoe County District Health, Air Quality Division
- Washoe County Regional Parks & Open Space
- Western Regional Water Commission
- Wilbur D. May Center & Arboretum

Hiring a Certified Arborist

What makes an arborist a “Certified Arborist?”

Calling oneself an “arborist” does not necessarily mean a person is a certified arborist. A certified arborist has a level of knowledge about trees and tree care and has passed an exam developed by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Some certified arborists may also have more extensive knowledge from their years of experience working with trees, through continuing education, and through degrees and certifications earned in related fields.

Some tasks provided by a certified arborist include:

- **Pruning** – If you’re unsure of how to properly prune your trees, have a certified arborist come and walk you through the process. Certified arborists don’t top trees, they have many techniques that can reshape and lighten a tree without resorting to harmful topping practices. Topping is a widespread practice and thought to be an acceptable practice but can be very harmful to trees.
- **Tree Removal** – Although tree removal is a last resort, there are some circumstances when it is necessary. An arborist can help decide whether a tree should be removed. Certified arborists have the skills and equipment to safely and efficiently remove trees.
- **Emergency Tree Care** – Storm-damaged trees can be dangerous to remove or trim, especially if other structures have been affected. A certified arborist can assist in performing the job in a safe manner, while reducing further risk of damage to property.
- **Planting** – Certified arborists can help you determine if you have the right tree in the right place.
- **Consultation** – A certified arborist helps assess the condition of your trees, and looks for ways to improve their health.



Storm makes it necessary for emergency tree removal.



Sycamore reacting to boron in soil.

Contact Information

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Updated 4/30/10

How do I find a certified arborist?

Not all tree care companies have certified arborists and not all certified arborists work for tree care companies. Certified arborists may work for nurseries, landscape maintenance companies, cities, counties or utility companies. Our municipal and government partners require certified arborists do their tree care work, whether on staff or through contract.

The following is a list of Community Forestry Coalition partners that offer certified arborist services to the community:

- **Dale Carlon Consulting, LLC**
dalecarlon@yahoo.com
- **Los Verdes Arborists**
www.losverdesarborists.com
- **Signature Landscapes**
www.siglands.com

To find a certified arborist in your area, visit the ISA online at www.isa-arbor.com and search by name or location.

You can also visit the **Ask An Arborist** section of www.communityforestry.org and submit your own questions.

When searching for a certified arborist be sure to:

- Ask for credentials to verify certification. Certified arborists should carry a membership card issued by the International Society of Arboriculture that shows the ISA logo, the arborist's name, their certification number and an expiration date.
- Ask for certificates of insurance, including proof of liability for personal and property damage as well as worker's compensation. Verify the insurance is current. If an uninsured worker is injured on your property or damages a neighbor's property, you may be held liable.
- Check for a city business license.
- Ask for references from previous customers and check a few if possible.
- Get a second opinion when it comes to diagnosing tree problems or treatments. Tree problems can be incorrectly diagnosed. You wouldn't want to pay for a treatment that isn't necessary!
- Get more than one price bid for the job to be done.

Remember: Under no circumstances should tree climbing spikes be used to climb trees for pruning. Spikes are acceptable only when a tree is being removed.

