

Love Letter from . . .

Tree Loving Care

Lubbock, Texas (806) 785-8733 • Midland, Texas (432) 620-8733
Winter 2014 • Serving All The West Texas Tree Needs Since 1978

Dear Friends and Fellow Tree Lovers

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from all of us at Tree Loving Care. We hope this has been a great year for you and that the holidays give you an opportunity to be with friends and family.

Tree Loving Care has had a blessed year. Our growth has continued and we expect to show about 12% growth for the year. Sometimes, with growth comes some growing pains. We have had a little bit of that this year. I hope it has had no negative effect on you. If it has, I apologize. I also ask that if we have dropped the ball on you, that you will let us know and give us a chance to correct the situation.

In October, Tree Loving Care has an opportunity to work with the [Texas Forest Service](#) (TFS) on a reforestation project in Fort Davis. We collected approximately 20 bushels of pine cones from Ponderosa Pine trees selected by TFS. The cones were sent to a facility to extract the seeds from the cones. The seeds were then sent to the TFS West Texas Nursery in Idalou, Texas, to be planted in liners and grown into seedling plants. When the seedlings reach an appropriate size, they will be transplanted into the Davis Mountains.

These trees will eventually replace many of trees lost in the devastating fires of 3 years ago. It will take decades, but the work must begin somewhere. Tree Loving Care is proud to be part of this effort.

My oldest daughter decided to move back to Brazil and when she went back to Brazil mid November, the family went with her. We left on Nov 12 and got back to Texas on Thanksgiving morning. I failed to forward my cell to the office and had a full bank of voice mails and no way to know how many calls I got after voicemail was full. If you tried to call my cell during that time and I have not returned your call, please try again. The call may be lost in the cloud.

Tree Loving Care is trying very hard to improve our social media efforts. Please friend us on [Facebook.com/treelovingcare](https://www.facebook.com/treelovingcare).

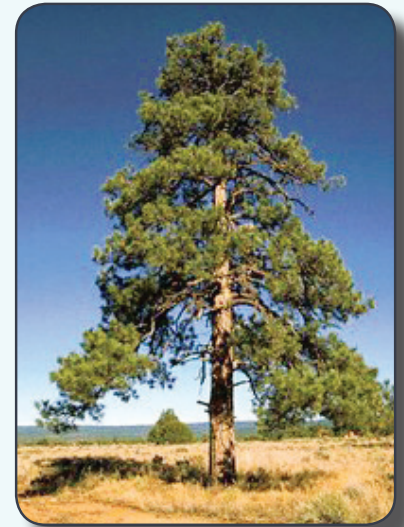
James Tuttle

Certified Arborist Tx0117A

Tree Of The Quarter

Ponderosa Pine, *Pinus ponderosa* is found in all of the western states as well as Nebraska and the Dakotas. In Texas, it is found in the Davis Mountains and Guadalupe Mountains. The Texas Champion Ponderosa Pine is in the Davis Mountains and is 110' tall. It is the tallest growing of all of the North American pines.

The Ponderosa Pine is drought tolerant, naturally occurring on rocky hillsides and in well drained deep soil meadows. It is available in most larger nurseries at least on occasion.



Ponderosa Pine
(*Pinus ponderosa*)



Visit our website at
www.treelovingcare.com



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GIVE YOUR TREES TLC

It has been wonderful to finally have rain. However, it is important to remember that we live in west Texas and winter is normally a very dry time of year. Your landscape needs an inch to an inch and a half per month. For most sprinkler systems, that would mean about an hour of run time. Tree Loving Care recommends that sprinklers remain on the manual setting so that irrigation is done only on a day or time when there is no danger of freezing temperatures.

Winter is a period of rest for the top of trees, but it is a happening time underground. Roots grow a lot during the winter. For that, they need both water and nutrients. You or God need to supply the water, but Tree Loving Care can supply the nutrients. Actually, God normally does that, too, but only if you follow His plan. Unfortunately, most people rake everything up and haul it to the dumpster. Call Tree Loving Care at either 806-785-8733 or 432-620-8733 to have one of our Certified Arborists assess your trees needs.

Winter is also a great time to get a jump on insects. Dormant oil applied at the correct time will kill many tree and shrub pests. In the spring, when they do hatch, the numbers will be greatly reduced. This is especially important for critters with multiple generations.

CRITTERS AND CRUDS

Eriococcus scale is still running rampant in the Lubbock area. Texas Red Oak seems to be the only tree affected by this critter, but it is devastating many trees in that area. The insect has multiple generations and has a reproductive potential that is phenomenal. There doesn't seem to be any natural controls, which is common

with an organism transported to new territories. Give one of our Certified Arborists a call if you notice something like this in your trees.



TLC UPDATE

In September, James Tuttle gave 2 presentations at the Texas Master Gardener Convention. One was 'Trees and Grass Are Natural Enemies'. It was more lighthearted than technical, but the information was sound. If you have heard James at just about any presentation or one on one, you have probably heard a lot of the points. The other talk was about trees of the great ranches of West Texas.

In October, James Tuttle, Glen Seaman, Butch Lathey and Tom Schooler went the Texas Tree Conference in Waco. There was an abundance of good information to be had by all. We set a record for attendance with over 1000 arborists from around the state in Waco for the conference and trade show.

Congratulations to Don Gardner, 2014 Texas Arborist of the Year. An honor richly deserved.

Visit our website at
www.tree-lovingcare.com