

Inspect your Landscape Trees for Hazards

Even if you watered your trees throughout the summer, our trees have suffered for a few years. This can cause our trees some problems.

November and December are a great time of the year to inspect our landscape trees for hazards. Most of the leaves have fallen, leaving a clear view of the tree structure. Although some tree failures are not predictable and cannot be prevented, many failures can be prevented. By inspecting trees for common structural defects, many potential failures can be corrected before they cause damage or injury.

Stand back and look at the whole tree. Thoroughly inspect the tree for defects in the following order.

Lean

Multiple trunks

Weakly attached branches

Cavities and decay

Cracks in the trunk and branches

Hanging or broken branches

Dead branches

For details and pictures, go to the website, pages 6 and 7 have detailed pictures.

<http://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8365.pdf>