

# Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

[www.ci.norfolk.ne.us](http://www.ci.norfolk.ne.us)

November 18, 2014

## “Winter Tree Care Tips from the Tree Advisory Board”



An early blast of cold has hit Northeast Nebraska but Jessica Jasnoch, a member of the City of Norfolk Tree Advisory Board, reminds people not to forget about their trees.

“Trees need TLC in order to survive Nebraska winters that can fluctuate greatly in temperature and moisture. Preparing a tree for the winter will insure it’s healthy and ready to grow next spring,” Jasnoch said. She is also the manager at Earl May Garden Center in Norfolk.

Jasnoch said there are five things to do in preparing a tree for the winter.

“First remove damaged twigs and branches from the tree so that heavy snow and pests don’t break off the branches and damage it even more. The second tip is you may want to clean up the leaves around the base of the tree and put in a 3-4 inch layer of mulch to protect the roots from the big fluctuation of temperatures we see in the winter,” Jasnoch said.

The third thing to do to help trees survive the winter is to wrap the trunk with a white corrugated tube or plastic so that rabbits don’t chew on the bark.

“The trunk of the tree is very vulnerable in the winter months. We also see sunscald on the south and west sides of the tree trunk so the fourth tip is to wrap hardware cloth around the trunk to help protect it from the harsh sun,” Jasnoch said.

The fifth fall tree care tip is to make sure the tree is watered adequately.

“As long as the ground isn’t frozen you can give the tree a good soaking. We’ve had some very dry winters where the roots had no moisture to draw from when it came time for spring growth. Providing adequate water for trees is one of the most important steps to make sure it’s healthy and less prone to disease,” Jasnoch said.

For more information about tree care, contact Jasnoch at 402-371-4660.

The Tree Advisory Board meets monthly with the goal of promoting the growing and caring of trees in the Norfolk area.