

EVALUATING TREES FOR RISK

Specific Defects

What to Look for in the Field?



Think of trees on "the conveyor belt of life." They germinate, grow, and finally reach a point where decline exceeds growth, and, eventually die.

As the tree moves down the conveyor belt of life the probability of whole or partial failure increases. From Dunster & Associates

The probability of a tree failing increases over time.

will happen 100 %

will never happen 0 %

Time in years

low risk level increasing risk level high risk

How to Identify Potential Hazards

- Start by Knowing your tree species
 - Know what is normal and what is not
 - Tally the defects or aberrations from the norm
 - Use a systematic approach—roots to shoots

Risk Factors to Assess

Risk Assessment Calculation

Probability of Failure (1 - 5 points)

1 2 3 4 5

Size of Defective Part (1 - 3)

1 2 3

Target Area (1 - 4 points)

1 2 3 4

Total score (maximum 12)

3 - 5 points = Low Risk
 6 - 8 points = Moderate Risk
 9 - 11 points = High Risk
 12 points = Extreme Risk

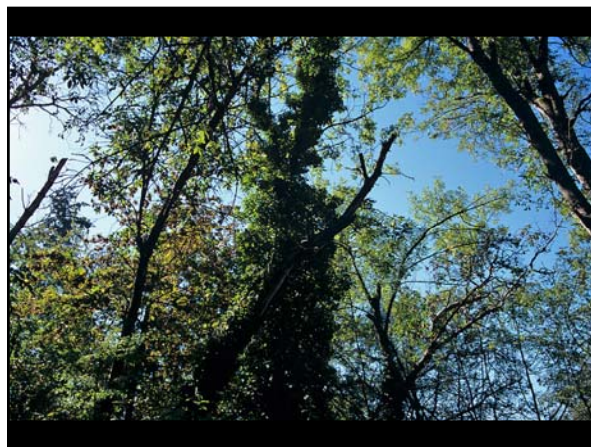
No target
= No risk

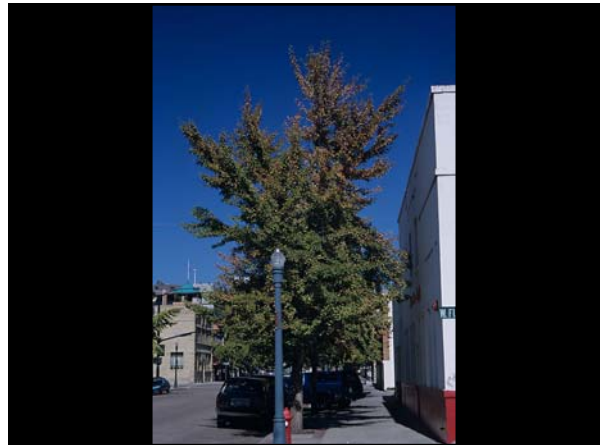


Types of Major Defects:

1. Dying Crowns
2. Leaning Trees
3. Forks
4. Cracks and Decay
5. Root Disease

1. Dying Crowns:





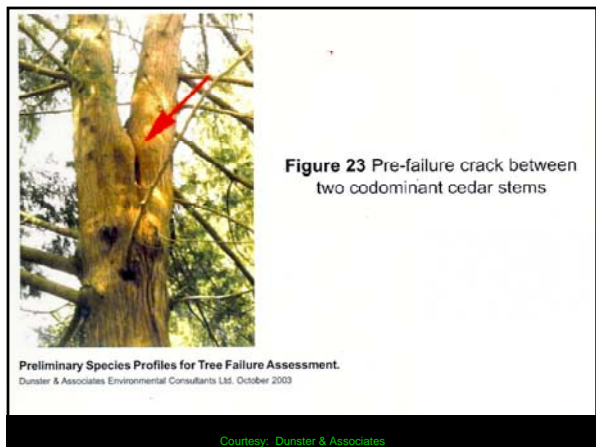
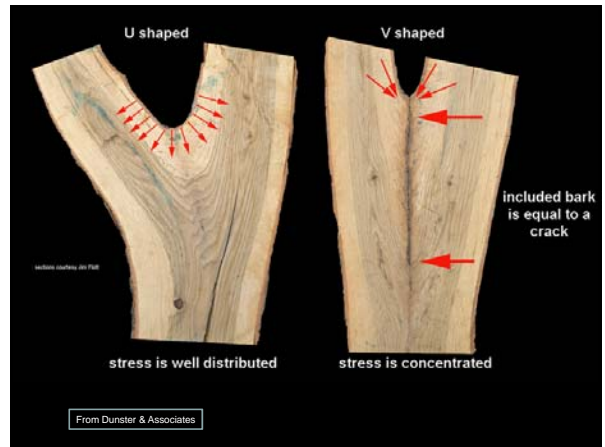
2. Leaning Trees:

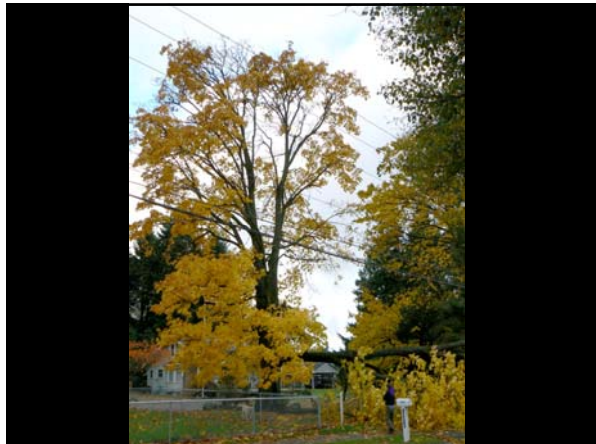
- Self Correcting Leans
- Recent Leans
- Failing Roots
- Phototropic Growth
- Non-geotropic Growth



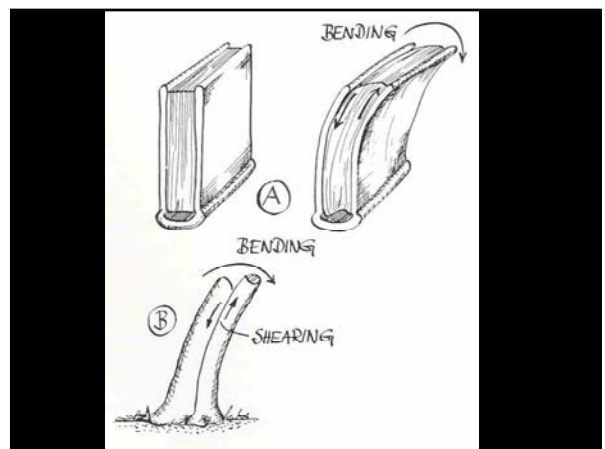
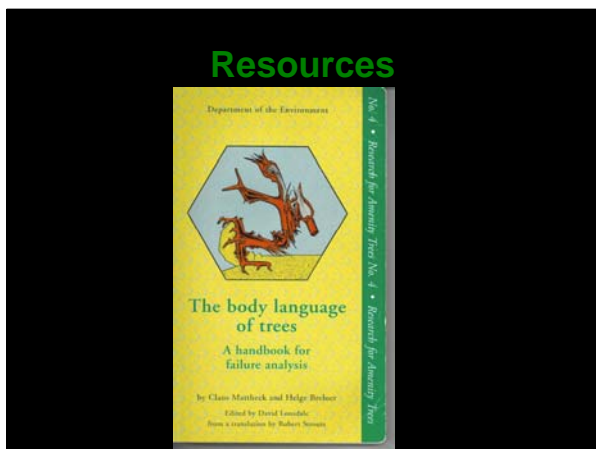


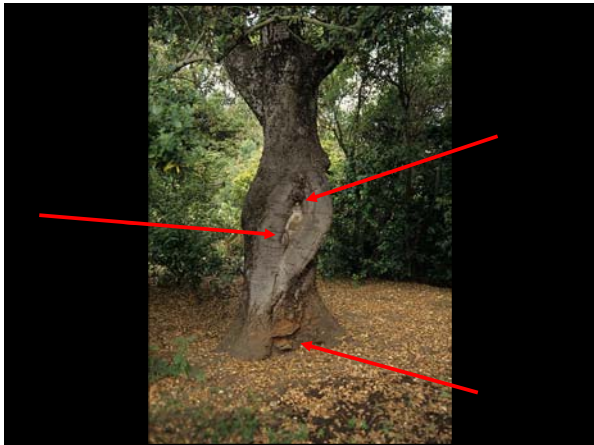
3. Forks:





4. Cracks & Decay

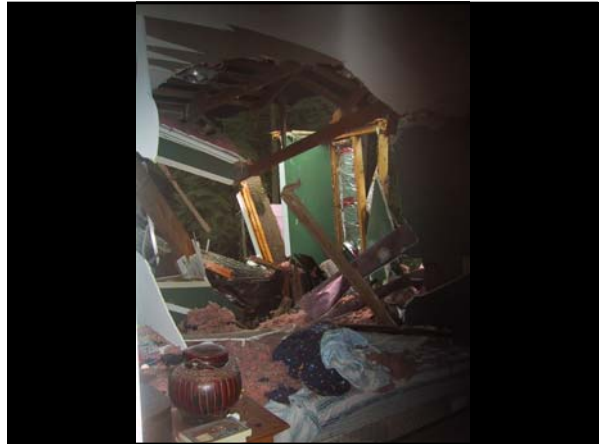




6. Root Disease:

- The more common pathogens
 - Rapid killers
 - Slow killers

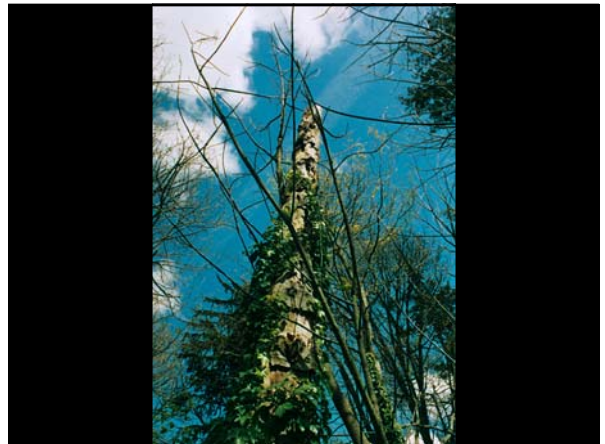


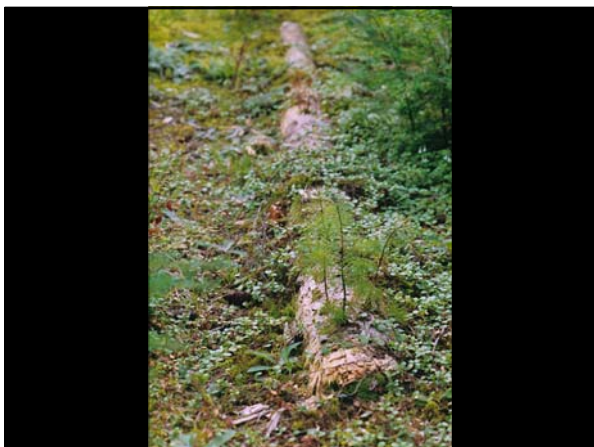


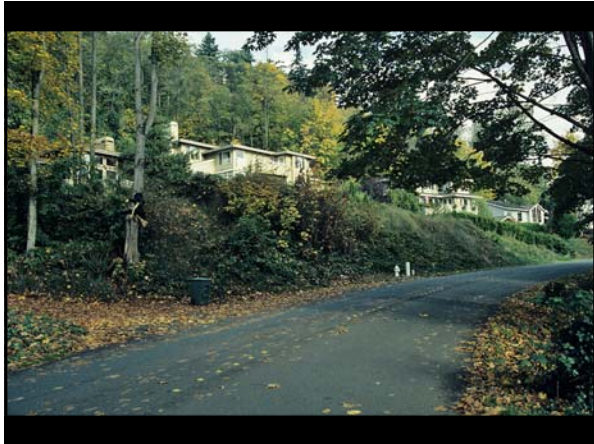


7. A Note About Urban Wildlife:

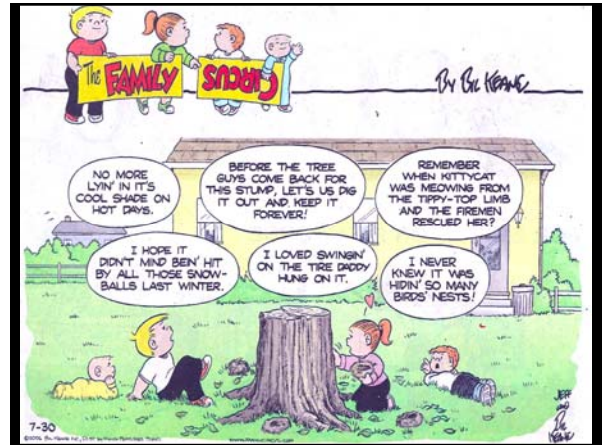
- It's important!
 - People spend MILLION\$ and MILLION\$ every year to attract and feed urban wildlife!
 - What you do affect our urban wildlife populations!







SUMMARY





Questions?

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