

Who Should I Hire to Work on My Ash Tree?

City of Boulder Forestry Division wants to remind residents to only hire licensed tree care or landscape companies to perform work to their ash trees.

Pesticide Applications

Before hiring a commercial pesticide company, consumers should know that the Colorado Pesticide Applicators' Act requires any person or company that applies pesticides for hire to be licensed as a commercial applicator through the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) including companies applying only organic or natural control products.

Licensing ensures commercial applicators have the necessary training, expertise and experience to apply chemicals to protect the environment and public safety. Every licensed commercial applicator in Colorado has to meet strict testing requirements that are enforced by the CDA.

A person or company that performs applications of pesticides for hire without holding the appropriate license may receive a maximum fine of \$1,000 per violation. CDA officials conduct routine office inspections to review records of applications, equipment maintenance and storage and disposal of pesticides in order determine that each pesticide applicator business is performing their work in accordance the pesticide use laws.

The CDA also investigates pesticide use and application complaints. To file a complaint, contact CDA at [303-239-4151](tel:303-239-4151). With additional questions or to determine if a pesticide company is licensed, call [303-239-4146](tel:303-239-4146) or visit www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi.

Tree Pruning and Removal

Any individual or company pruning or removing trees on either public or private property within the city must hold a current city of Boulder Tree Contractor License. It is a two tier system:

TIER 1: Arborist License – Licensees in this category have demonstrated a higher level of knowledge and professionalism and are allowed to perform tree work to trees in the public rights-of-way and to both public and private trees that are infested/infected with a major insect/disease problem (i.e. emerald ash borer, Thousand cankers disease of black walnut, Dutch elm disease, mountain pine beetle, etc).

TIER 2: Licensed Tree Contractor – Licensees under this category are not allowed to perform tree work to trees in the public rights-of-way or to both public and private property trees that are infested/infected with a major insect/disease problem.

Tree care companies performing work to public or private ash trees must have a city of Boulder Arborist license. A list of current license holders can be found at <https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/crystal/pds/lic/32-certified-arborist.pdf>.

Please contact the city of Boulder Forestry Division at 303-441-4406 with any questions about the arborist licensing program.