



BRANCHES TREE CARE LTD.

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WHY HIRE AN ARBORIST?

CERTIFIED ARBORISTS SPECIALIZE IN THE CARE OF TREES OR WOODY PLANTS. THEY ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE NEEDS OF TREES AND ARE TRAINED TO PROVIDE PROPER CARE. HIRING AN ARBORIST SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY. PROPER TREE CARE IS AN INVESTMENT THAT CAN LEAD TO SUBSTANTIAL RETURNS. WELL CARED FOR TREES ARE ATTRACTIVE AND CAN ADD CONSIDERABLE VALUE TO YOUR PROPERTY. POORLY MAINTAINED TREES CAN BE A SIGNIFICANT LIABILITY. PRUNING OR REMOVING TREES, ESPECIALLY LARGE TREES, CAN BE DANGEROUS WORK. TREE WORK SHOULD BE DONE ONLY BY THOSE TRAINED AND EQUIPPED TO WORK SAFELY IN TREES.

SELECTING THE RIGHT ARBORIST COMPANY

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF THE ARBORIST YOU ARE TALKING WITH IS ACTUALLY A CERTIFIED ARBORIST? THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORCULTURE (ISA) IS THE GOVERNING BODY OF ARBORISTS IN NORTH AMERICA. ALL CERTIFIED ARBORISTS ARE CERTIFIED THROUGH THE ISA. WE GET A NUMBER ONCE WE PASS, IT'S FOUND AROUND OUR NAME. FOR EXAMPLE MY NAME IS DIANNE HUTTON AND THE NUMBER IS AFTER MY NAME PR5142A. THE PR STANDS FOR THE ISA CHAPTER I AM A MEMBER OF. PR IS SHORT FOR PRAIRIE, ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN AND MANITOBA MAKE UP THE PRAIRIE CHAPTER. THE NUMBERS IS HOW MANY CERTIFIED ARBORISTS ARE IN THE PRAIRIE CHAPTER AND THE A STANDS FOR ARBORIST AS THERE ARE OTHER CERTIFICATIONS THE ISA OFFERS.

HERE'S WHERE IT GETS TRICKY. THE ISA ALLOWS PEOPLE AND COMPANIES TO BE MEMBERS, CERTIFIED OR NOT. ONCE A MEMBER, THE ISA ALLOWS CERTAIN LOGO'S TO BE USED BY THAT PERSON OR COMPANY. A MEMBER LOGO LOOKS VERY SIMILAR TO A CERTIFIED ARBORIST LOGO. SOME COMPANIES MAKE THE ISA LOGO SMALL SO THE WORDS UNDER IT CAN'T BE READ EASILY. BOTH LOGOS ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE. WHEN PEOPLE ASK ME HOW CAN I TELL CERTIFIED OR NOT, I TELL THEM TO LOOK FOR THE CERTIFICATION NUMBER BY THE NAME. THE ISA REQUIRES CERTIFIED ARBORISTS TO SHOWCASE THEIR NUMBER IN SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OR ISA CAN CANCEL THE CERTIFICATION. CERTIFIED ARBORISTS ARE VERY PROUD OF THEIR CERTIFICATION, IT'S HARD WORK, IT'S ALWAYS RIGHT BY OUR NAME AND NO OTHER PLACE.

OTHER SMART THINGS TO ASK FOR OR DO: ASK FOR PROOF OF INSURANCE, WCB AND A BUSINESS LICENSE. DON'T ALWAYS ACCEPT THE LOWEST OR HIGHEST QUOTES, YOU WANT THE COMPANY IN THE MIDDLE. BE WARY OF COMPANIES GOING DOOR TO DOOR. GOOD ARBORISTS ARE BUSY AND DON'T NEED TO PEDDLE FOR WORK. GET QUOTES IN WRITING...ALWAYS!!

