

Root Pruning

Root pruning is one of the most common methods of mitigation prescribed for construction impacts. Often overused, The Care of Trees takes each root pruning specification seriously and insures its necessity before proceeding with this service.

Plant tissue does not heal and instead only calluses. Root pruning is a process in which clean cuts are made to allow for the fastest callusing of necessary wounds and healthy re-growth of lost root systems. During development, root pruning is employed in areas where excavation takes place for such purposes as grade changes, utilities installation or foundation digs. In these situations, roots typically are torn and mangled by digging equipment, severely impacting a tree's ability to recover. The Care of Trees provides an ISA Certified Arborist® to clean, cut and trim roots ahead of excavation, thereby allowing the development to continue and not curtailing plans and techniques planned by the site contractors.

More importantly, before each root pruning operation, our arborists confirm the need and proposed activities for each area before proceeding.

Mechanical Root Pruning

Mechanical root pruning is the most common type of root pruning. Using a mechanical trenching device, an Arborist will first excavate a trench, then follow up by hand-pruning any exposed roots greater than 1" in diameter.

Supersonic Air Tool Root Pruning

Using the supersonic air tool, a technician will excavate the area to be root pruned first, exposing all the roots without damaging buried utilities or other facilities. Next, the team will hand prune the roots greater than 1" inch diameter.



(top to bottom) A mechanical trenching device excavating a job site for root pruning; roots are exposed by the excavation; the Supersonic Air Tool root pruning process.



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