

# WINTERIZE YOUR TREES

As north Texas temperatures slowly drop into the two digits we should all start preparing our properties for the possibility of cold weather. The weather is cooler and spending time in our yards is much more pleasant. Fall is an excellent time to trim trees, contrary to the popular belief that this should be done after the first frost. We winterize our homes and our cars and winterizing trees is also a good idea that can save time and money if done properly.

Winter storms add water, ice and occasionally snow to tree limbs and branches causing diseased or weak branches to break. Falling limbs and branches can then cause damage to property, obstruct traffic and pedestrian walkways and even cause injury. Properly pruned trees have a better chance of resisting breakage.

City of Plano ordinances require that tree limbs, branches, and shrubs extending into streets, sidewalks, and alleys be cut to allow a minimum seven (7) foot clearance over a sidewalk and a minimum fourteen (14) foot clearance over a street or alley. Plants or other vegetation may not block visibility at corners or intersections.

Below please find a link to the City of Plano standards for trees, foliage and shrubbery over streets, alleys, and sidewalks.

[City of Plano Landscape Standards](#)