



AAA Spraying, Inc

**ANSWERS
AND ADVICE**

**SERVING THE GREATER
SEATTLE AREA
SINCE
1958**

P.O. Box 77067. • Seattle, WA 98177-0067 • (206) 526-1200

[www.aaaspraying .com](http://www.aaaspraying.com)

aaaspraying@hotmail.com

AAA Spraying, Inc. prepared this booklet to assist you in deciding which of our services are appropriate for keeping your trees and shrubs in a healthy condition and preserving their beauty. Our services are priced economically to provide low-cost maintenance to help keep your landscaping free of insects and plant disease.

We also apply selected materials and properly time applications.

Consumers often purchase small package insecticides and fertilizers at a higher cost. Formulations are also often different and not as effective. These products are often inappropriate for our environmental conditions. They also prove as a disadvantage for dispensing of and storing partially used containers.

Often the question is asked: "How safe are the products we use?" All of our materials are safe when used properly and our materials are approved not only by the Environmental Protection Agency, but also by the Washington State Department of Agriculture for use in and around both residential and commercial properties. These agencies have taken into consideration the fact many homeowners have children and pets.

As of 2004, the applicators at AAA Spraying, Inc. represent a total of over 100 years of pesticide usage. We are proud that in over **53** years of business, we have never had a single day of lost time due to illness even remotely linked to pesticides and we are in contact with them 40 hours a week. Also, we have never received a call regarding an ill pet. Our doses are for insects and are mixed precisely. We believe chemicals are the "roots" of environmental control and when properly used, they are the avenue to beauty, sanitation and damage control.

Should you decide our spray service is right for you, the following information in this pamphlet will provide, in detail, information we believe will be of importance and useful to you. Welcome to AAA Spraying, Inc.! We appreciate your business!

TREES AND SHRUBS SPRAYING PROGRAM

WHEN AND HOW OFTEN

The successful application of spray to control insects and plant diseases depends on several factors:

- 1. The problem you wish to control;**
- 2. The time of year;**
- 3. Proper spray ingredients;**
- 4. Complete spray coverage.**

Some problems can be controlled by one spray application while other problems may need repeated applications. The average yard requires a 6 (six) spray program on the trees and shrubs to aid in controlling insects and plant diseases. Please keep in mind, our Northwest weather conditions may vary the timing of sprays as we cannot spray in the rain or during windy situations. Most sprays generally are effective from two to four weeks, depending on the weather and the chemical used.

2- SPRING SPRAYS

Two applications during mid-March through May. This spray is for the control of young aphids, mites, tent caterpillars, beetles, bark borers, psylla, leaf miners, leaf tiers and other sucking and chewing insects. It also aids in the control of plant diseases.

2- SUMMER SPRAYS

Two applications during June through August. The purpose of this spray is for the control of aphids, spider mites, psylla, leaf hoppers, bark borers, leaf miners, leaf tiers, beetles, scale and other sucking and chewing insects. It also helps in restraining plant disease organisms.

1 - FALL SPRAY

There is one application during August through October. This spray helps to control aphids, tree slugs, leaf miners, leaf tiers, tip borers, weevils, bark borers, scale and other sucking and chewing insects. This spray reduces overwintering of the insects and disease organisms, therefore aiding in subsequent control.

1 - WINTER OR DORMANT SPRAY

One application between mid-November through mid-March. This spray is to control the scale insect on the deciduous (trees and shrubs which lose their leaves in winter) plantings. Also included are Junipers, Pines and Hemlocks. It helps in control of the eggs of the aphids, mites and worms (except caterpillars) which overwinter on the trees and shrubs. Also at this time, there are one to two sprays applied to the peach trees for the control of "Peach Leaf Curl."

As an added note: We add to our sprays a substance called spreader- stickers or spray surfactants. These materials are designed to act as adhesive agents which cause the spray materials to adhere to the foliage of the trees and shrubs. This is very effective even through periods of heavy rainfall. If we have a brief drying period after our spray application and prior to additional rainfall, these spreader-stickers will hold our spray materials on the plants' foliage and the spray will be effective. If we believe it rained too soon after the application, we will automatically re-spray on the next spray day. We only require 10-20 minutes for the material to dry.

Should you have any questions or problems related to a specific spray application, please contact our office within 48 hours to allow your professional applicator to determine further treatment

CHEWING AND SUCKING INSECT CONTROL

Insects, because of the damage they cause, are divided into two primary groups: chewing and sucking. Chewing type insects cause damage which is easily detected. They chew holes in the leaves or along the leaf margins. Leaf tiers and leaf rollers will roll the leaves or tie leaves together. Caterpillars can completely defoliate a tree or shrub by devouring all of its leaves. Sucking type insects cause damage by piercing the epidermis of the plant's leaf with their sucking type mouth parts and withdrawing the fluids within the plant. Spider mites, while not true insects, also cause damage in this manner. Evidence of damage on the plants may vary from a mottled appearance of the leaf to complete browning of leaves and defoliation of the tree or shrub.

Insects may also be carriers of plant diseases. Because insect damage can weaken plants and make them more susceptible to injury from disease, insect control becomes very important.

The best control of insect infestation consists of preventative spraying. Some insects have many life cycles during the year and spraying must be done frequently enough to combat these insects throughout the year.

Some insects in the root-weevil group require special applications of materials to the soil to control the larval stage of these insects which damage plants by feeding on the roots.

Slugs, while not insects, also feed on the foliage of plants and require special attention from the homeowner. We recommend baiting, with some bait placed directly in the centers of the plants for additional control.

PLANT DISEASES

The successful treatment of plant disease by chemical methods leaves much to be desired. Fungus control often requires many applications at close intervals. Even then, the control may not be successful due to weather conditions, location of the plant, health of the plant, imported plants with new insects and diseases that our area has no natural enemies to control the populations and a host of other contributing factors, Bacteria and viruses are virtually non-controllable. Sometimes, removal of a plant may be the recommended course of action. As we do an application, we apply fungicides to help control some of the common fungi. We can do additional fungicide applications, but of course, the cost versus the benefit must be weighed.

Plants and trees that are healthy are less susceptible to disease. Proper fertilization, location, drainage, water and soil conditions are key in having a healthy plant.

ORGANICS

We also offer organic sprays. Even though highly effective in many cases, organics often leave a lot to be desired. You may have noticed that much organic produce is more costly than the standard produce and often not quite as “showy”. Organics tend to break down quickly leaving little or no residue for continued protection. This often means more applications to achieve the desired control. Plus, organics are mainly for insect control and do not offer much, if any, protection from fungus. We cannot guarantee any extended control with organic pesticides, but we have had good insect control in the short term.

DEEP ROOT TREE & SHRUB FERTILIZING

We cannot express how happy we are with the results of this program for trees and shrubs. Most everyone fertilizes their lawn. Why not your landscape trees and shrubs? Plants are usually purchased from nurseries and growers where they are in proper soils and adequately fertilized and in an optimum location. They are planted in a yard, often with poor soil, a less than desirable location, and expected to live the rest of their lives with a little water. Frequently bark or mulch is placed around their bases robbing them of nitrogen as it decomposes.

Our Deep Root Fertilizing program injects a balanced fertilizer around the root zone of ornamental trees and shrubs. This fertilizer is slow release, feeding throughout the growing season. It does not promote excessive growth. What it does is strengthen the plant and makes it more resistant to the stresses of climate and location. Added benefits are a plant that is healthy, more resistant to fungus diseases, can recover more quickly from minor insect infestations and has better color.

Of note: Some fertilize their plants by sprinkling lawn fertilizer around the base. This does get fertilizer into the plants, but usually supplies too much quick release nitrogen causing excessive growth. Above all, never use a fertilizer with a weed control product around your trees and shrubs! Fertilizers with weed control often contain systemic weed control materials that can damage plants if applied in sufficient quantity.

LAWNS

Beautiful lawns don't "just happen."

They are the result of careful planning, planting and scheduled maintenance.

The following information is designed to help solve your problems by establishing and maintaining a virtuous, healthy lawn.

TURF FERTILIZING

First of all, a good fertilizer program is needed. The program we offer (either liquid or granular) was developed especially for this area with the aid of the Western Washington Experimental Station, a branch of Washington State University. Please consult your professional applicator for advice on local conditions.

When you join our lawn program, we will apply fertilizer 4 times during the growing season and one winter fertilization. The application will yield six pounds of available nitrogen per thousand square feet per year in a 3-1- 2 ratio.

The application of fertilizer during mid-winter can help your lawn the following summer. Unless it is below freezing, lawns continue to grow throughout the winter. Most of the growing is in the root system so a winter feeding helps promote that system even more. This creates a hardy lawn allowing it to be more resistant to the stresses of summer and severe weed problems.

TURF WEED CONTROL

Our lawn program also includes turf weed control. In most cases, this is the science of removing broadleaf weeds and clovers from desirable grasses. Chemical weed control of this type is a valuable asset.

Common broadleaf weeds such as dandelion and plantain can usually be controlled with one application. For some hard to kill weeds such as buttercup, it is necessary for a second and possible third application. In the case of veronica, a special program of chemicals, timing and patience must be followed.

LIMING

The soil in the Pacific Northwest tends to be on the acid side. Use of fertilizers creates a more acid soil. Liming of lawns will help to lower the acidity and often enables the lawn to better utilize the nutrients supplied.

LAWN CARE

Mowing should be initiated when new shoots reach a height of 1 1/2 inches (Bluegrass, 2 inches), Then, only remove the top 1/3. If you have brand new grass, then remove 1/2. After the first year, start removing only 1/3 of the tops. This should be done weekly in most cases. Water 1 - 2 times per week applying 1" of water. Measure by using a shallow dish or pie pan.

CRANE FLY LARVA

Crane fly larva damage the lawn by eating both the blade and root of the grass leaving large, bare patches. The eggs are laid in late August to mid September and usually hatch in eleven to fifteen days. They are voracious feeders and by March or April, can devastate a lawn in a matter of days. We have found the best time to control the larva is in November or December when they are still small and vulnerable.

A LIST OF OUR SERVICES

- Automatic spraying programs for trees & shrubs for insects & disease
- Automatic programs for fertilizing & weed control in your lawn
- Automatic deep root tree & shrub fertilizing
- Automatic organic programs on request
- Diagnostic evaluations and soil testing
- Specialty fungus sprays (Brown Rot, Anthracnose, Peach Curl)
- Lawn insect control (Crane Fly, Lawn Moth, Fleas, Grubs)
- Lawn fungus control (Fusarium, Red Thread, Brown Patch, molds)
- Spider sprays, exterior of house
- Soil insects & diseases (Cutworms, Slugs, Pythium, Phytophthora, Rhizoctoria & Fusarium)
- Tree injections for insect control & fertilizing
- Drenches for bark beetles/bark tortrix
- Professional pruning during winter months only

We hope our booklet has provided you with knowledge on the services we offer. Please call or write to us should you have further questions.

AAA Spraying, Inc.

P.O. Box 77067

Seattle WA 98177

(206)526-1200

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POISON INFORMATION CENTER
(206) 526-2121
POISONOUS PLANTS

The following is a list of the most poisonous plants found in this area which affect humans and animals:

If ever you should have any questions or doubts,
ALWAYS CALL the above number or your doctor.

Plants Causing Dermatitis

Calla Lily	Poison Oak
Cow Parsnip	Primrose (obconca) green house, introduced from Eurasia
Daffodil	Petty Spurge
Devils Club	St. Johnswort
Dog Fennel	Smartweed
Iris	Stinging nettle
Lady Slipper – in flowering season	Wild carrot
Moleplant (Caper spurge)	Wild ginger
Motherwort	Yellow Jasmine
Poison Ivy	

Plants Poisonous If Eaten

Baneberry – berries	Lobelia – leaves
Bleeding heart – root	Lupine – seeds
Bouncing bet (sapanaria)	Mock Orange – fruit
Soapwort – leaves	Monkshood – all parts
Bracken Fern – all parts	Mt. Laurel – leaves
Burning bush – leaves	Nightshade, annual – berries
Buttercup – leaves	Nightshade – deadly berries
Castor bean – seed	Oleander – foliage
Christmas rose – leaves	Pokeweed – root
Daffodil – bulb	Poison hemlock – all parts
Daphne (mezereum) – berries	Potato (sunburned)
Death camas - root, leaves	Red Elderberry – berries
Dieffenbachia (dumb cane)	Rhododendron – leaves
Fall crocus – bulb	Rhubarb – leaves
Foxglove – leaves, flower	Scotch broom – seeds
Heracleum	Skimmia – all parts
Holly – berries	Spreading Dogbane – plant
Horse chestnut – nut	Sweet pea – seed and stem
Horsetail – plant	Tobacco – leaves
Ivy – berries	Tansy – common leaves
Jerusalem cherry	Tansy ragwort – leaves
Jimson weed – all parts	Water Hemlock – all parts
Laburnum – seed	Wild cherry – leaves
Larkspur – leaves	Yew – all parts
Lily of the Valley – all parts	