

# Think Before You Top. Get the Facts.

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## **Tree-Topping**

"the cost is **greater** 

than you think"

#### What is Topping?

 Drastic cutting of a trees' branches. Also known as: Heading, Stubbing, Tipping, Rounding-over, Dehorning

## Topping is dangerous and unhealthy for your trees

- In severe cases-tree topping can cause the death of a tree and it does NOT correctly control its size
- This type of tree "cutting" can cause large areas of decay and removes a tree's food supply its leaves and branches
- A topped tree is more likely to fail and cause damage during a storm

## Avoid "door-to-door" tree services or landscapers that suggest tree topping

- Many are misinformed about proper tree pruning techniques
- For safety, hire a certified arborist to prune large trees

## Maximizing the benefits of your trees!

### Plant the right tree in the right place

- · Buy quality trees and plants that fit the planting site
- · With proper care and maintenance, trees are safe

#### A healthy tree provides many benefits

- · Protects you and your family with shade and reduced energy costs
- A properly maintained tree increases property values
- The roots of a strong, healthy-growing tree prevents soil erosion

### Hire a certified tree professional to carefully prune your tree

- Call a professional, get a second opinion, ask tough questions
- Find a certified arborist: International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), www.treesaregood.com

### Here's how you can help!

- Get proper tree care information from your local Penn State Cooperative Extension Office, DCNR Bureau of Forestry Office, or visit www.patrees.org
- 2. Attend tree care workshops and learn about national tree pruning standards
- 3. Volunteer with a parks, forestry or tree group to help with tree care and maintenance
- 4. Encourage your company to support local tree projects
- 5. Ask your local elected leaders to increase funding for parks, trees, greenspace and forestry

For more information: Contact Your Local Penn State Cooperative Extension Office, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, or visit www.patrees.org







