

# Home Hints

## Plant Trees To Help The Environment And Your Wallet

(NAPSA)—Trees give our landscape character. They create beauty, provide natural habitats for wildlife, absorb carbon dioxide and protect the soil against erosion. Trees save us money, too. The Georgia Forestry Commission says three properly placed trees can save the average household \$100-\$250 annually in energy costs.

Trees also add to curb appeal. The U.S. Forest Service says trees can increase property values by as much as 10 percent. Selecting trees and proper positioning are keys to putting more money in your wallet:

- Check with your local nursery or cooperative extension office for the best species for your area.
- A row of evergreen trees helps block cold winds in the winter.
- Place trees on the east- and west-facing sides of the home to shade windows.
- Place trees at least 10 feet away from your house to prevent overcrowding.

"Protecting trees is vital if you want them to last for years," says Bayer Advanced garden expert Lance Walheim, co-author of "Landscaping for Dummies." "Insects such as the Emerald Ash Borer, hemlock woolly adelgid and the Asian long-horned beetle are just some of the pests that can damage your trees."

If the insects cause too much damage, you'll have to hire an



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### Trees add curb appeal.

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expensive tree service to cut them down. Prevention is the key: Bayer Advanced™ 12 Month Tree & Shrub Protect & Feed ([bayeradvanced.com](http://bayeradvanced.com)) kills insects and prevents new infestations for up to a year. It also has a slow-release fertilizer. Mix it in a watering can and pour around the base of the tree to protect it from bottom to top. Always read and follow label directions. (This product isn't registered in Long Island, New York.)

Other recommendations:

- Add mulch to the base of the trees to retain moisture and help keep the weeds out.
- Water your trees so the water can penetrate two to three feet. You can use a narrow wooden dowel to probe the soil. It'll stop when it hits dry soil.
- Check trees often for signs of broken branches and yellowing, damaged or dying foliage.
- Prune trees by getting rid of dead limbs and thinning branches to accent the shape.

Another tip: Never top a tree. That weakens it and ruins its natural shape.