



HOW TO IDENTIFY A HIGH RISK TREE

Over time, trees can become affected by age, environment and weather conditions. It is always important to recognize and take proper corrective action for trees that have become high risk. Structural defects that could cause a tree to drop and strike a home, structure, vehicle or even a person are considered high risk. How can you identify these tree risks? Here are some common defects and what to look for.

RISKS

LOOSE BARK

Peeling bark near the base of the tree could indicate rotten wood underneath.

FUNGAL BODIES

Fungus growing on the trunk near the roots is a sign of disease inside the tree.

POOR TREE SHAPE

Excessive leaning and strange branch shape; very easy to spot.

DECAY

Likely caused by the presence of fungus. Soft, crumbly wood is a sign of serious decay.

ROOT ISSUES

Characterized by poor tree stability and dieback. Often caused by poor soil conditions or severed roots.

CANKERS

A result of disease and wounding, cankers are characterized by sunken or missing areas of bark.

LIMB OR TRUNK CRACKS

Deep cracks in the limbs and trunk indicate the tree has begun failing.

WEAK BRANCH CONNECTIONS

Areas where the branches are not strongly attached to the tree.

SOIL CRACKS

Splitting soil near the roots could indicate a weakening or failing root system.

DEADWOOD

When dry or brittle branches are observed, it is an indication that the tree or parts of the tree are dead.

EMERALD ASH BORER

“D” shaped holes and cracked bark on limbs.
Bare branches appear in upper canopy.

HAVE YOU SPOTTED ANY OF THESE RISKS?

It could be time for pruning, treatment or perhaps a removal. Contact our team of ISA Certified Arborists at Wright Outdoor Solutions today to schedule a consultation.



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