

Tree Guys Don't Know Anything      Paul Hetzler, ISA Certified Arborist

**What is an arborist?**

1. What a resident of Ann Arbor, Michigan calls herself/ himself.
2. A person who has received extensive training in all aspects of urban tree care.
3. As opposed to *your* borist.

**Tree topping is:**

1. A type of syrup that forest-industry workers prefer on their ice cream.
2. An incorrect way to reduce a tree's height, one which leads to a very weak and hazardous tree.
3. A blend of mud and aquatic plant roots that beavers smear on a tree before they start gnawing.

**What is drop-crotch pruning?**

1. We don't want to discuss that kind of thing here.
2. The correct way to reduce the height of deciduous trees, also known as crown reduction.
3. A way to modify normal-looking pants to conform to a particular fashion style.

**Before planting a tree, what is the best material to add to the soil in the planting hole?**

1. Wheaties.
2. In most cases, nothing.
3. An arborist.

**What is tree wound dressing?**

1. A natural fermented product derived from tree wound exudate, sometimes used in salad dressing.
2. A compound once employed to seal over tree wounds but whose use is now discouraged.
3. A sterile cloth used to cover a tree wound to keep it clean.

**The best thing to fill a tree cavity with is:**

1. Reinforcing rods, old water pipes or scrap metal, followed by concrete.
2. Nothing.
3. Dental amalgam.

**How deep should a tree be planted?**

1. The deeper the better.
2. So its root flare is right at ground level.
3. Depends on how many arborists you throw in the planting hole.

**The root system of a mature tree, in profile, is shaped most like:**

1. A carrot.
2. A plate.
3. It mirrors the crown in size and shape.

**What are tree guys?**

1. The ones wearing hardhats and carrying chainsaws, duh.
2. Wires or cables to temporarily support young transplants subject to high wind.
3. You mean tree *persons*, don't you?

**What is an underwire tree?**

1. A Bonsai tree with an armature of wire embedded in the trunk.
2. A short-maturing tree species or cultivar that can grow under utility wires without interfering.
3. A tree bearing large, voluptuous fruit that require extra support.

Y'all know the answers... OK, it's always (2) in case you don't.