

# HOW TO PICK THE RIGHT ARBORIST

A certified arborist forms the back bone of a proper tree service. While it may not seem that important at first, even a person with no experience in managing tree jobs can see the differences in quality and safety. These differences will make sure that your job is done safely, professional and with unsurpassed quality.

Start by picking a tree service that has been in business for many years. These businesses will have professional equipment, trucks, and employees. If your chosen tree service works out of dilapidated trucks, uses unmarked equipment and hires shady workers; then it is time to find a new service to do your job.

A quality tree service should have safety equipment for every employee on the job, hard hats, eye protection and ear protection. This life saving equipment is necessary to prevent and mitigate common injuries. Additionally, ask your tree service about their insurance coverage. In the unlikely event of any accident on your property these professional services will be able to handle the insurance claim on its own. However, a lesser business without insurance will simply leave you with the bill. Also, ask your tree service about the drug testing programs their business uses. An experienced business will test its employees to ensure the safety of everyone on the job and the homeowner.

Inquire about the credentials of the arborist who does diagnostic work, pesticide recommendations and estimates. The tree service should also have climbers

with many years of experience and whom have been certified as ISA Arborists. This combination of education and skill ensures that you will have accurate and correct work done on your job. A skilled climber should also have extensive knowledge of tree pruning. The climbers in your chosen tree service must know how to use spurless techniques while pruning. Climbing spurs can severely injure your trees, leading to infection and death.

Proper arborists should be able to give accurate estimates. Be very suspicious of any business that gives a low estimate. All responsible tree services operate within a similar cost structure. These business will be taking into consideration your needs, the safety of their employees and the type of equipment that is need to do the job right. Additionally, be wary of tree services that only except cash. These business are not to be trusted.

Finally, choose a service that will be around next year and is willing to carry out plans to maintain your trees. Cheaper business typically do poor quality work and end up not making it in the long run. Picking a quality tree service gives you the benefit of having some one that can reliably look after your trees for many years.

If you are ever unsure about the quality of a tree service, ask other property owners about their experiences. Talking to neighbors, and checking reviews online are great ways to determine the character of a business. These references, as well as these tips will surely guide you to the arborist for you.