

NEWS RELEASE TEMPLATE
YOUR ORGANIZATION'S LOGO

Date

Topping trees is hazardous to their health
Campaign to help educate homeowners

OLYMPIA (your city) – The ___(your organization) is cautioning the public about the dangers of tree topping. Topping trees is a poor practice and is not recommended. Topping a tree may reduce property value, shorten the life span of the tree, and make the tree a safety hazard.

The mission for this campaign is to educate the community about the negative effects of tree topping and encourage proper tree care. Healthy trees are an asset to our society, and the practice of tree topping often leads directly to a tree becoming unhealthy and unsafe.

Tree topping is the drastic removal or cutting back of large branches in mature trees, leaving large, open wounds that subject the tree to disease and decay. Topping causes immediate injury to the tree and ultimately results in early failure or death of the tree. This practice has been deemed unsafe for many years but sadly, is still happening to homeowners' trees.

The ___(your organization) is working cooperatively with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Urban and Community Forestry Program, which works to educate citizens and decision-makers about the economic, environmental, psychological, and aesthetic benefits of trees. For more information, log onto www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry

Media Contact: Your name, Your title, Phone #, e-mail

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