Spruce Terminal Weevil part II

Last week we determined that the tops of spruce trees infested with Spruce Terminal Weevil larva need to be cut and disposed of. This helps control the population of Spruce Terminal Weevil from spreading but does not eliminate them completely. A Plant Health Care spray program can greatly help. There are three main insecticide treatments. First is a foliar spray in the spring, followed by a systemic drench, and then a ground cover in the fall. The reason behind the three specific applications is to try and catch the weevils at the different places and stages of their life cycle. These stages begin in the spring as soon as it thaws and the adult weevil that has spent the winter in the ground under the tree begins to climb the tree. A foliar spray can help catch them in transition to the top. A fall systemic will also ensure an added layer of protection inside the trees cambium. This helps control the weevils that may have survived the spray or flown from another nearby spruce and try and lay their eggs in the top. The added fall ground cover helps eliminate any that are camping out under the tree for the overwinter. Depending on when the terminal weevil was noticed and the program started, it may take two seasons to get good control with all three applications. If left untreated, a spruce may be attacked each year really affecting the shape and structure of its top. I suggest people treat young and mid age spruce to ensure good central leader tops and overall tree form. After a certain age and height however, it may be very difficult to reach the top to prune and impossible to spray. Remember, it is only the top and is it hard to see? I say, out of sight out of mind.

For further questions, quotes and consultations give us a call today. For more on Grace Tree Service check us out at gracetreeservice.com.