## TREE TOPPING



## WHAT IS TREE TOPPING?

Tree topping is the practice of removing the whole top of the tree or removing the large branches and leaving stubs or branches that are too small, causing the tree to be more vulnerable to insect attacks, fungal decay, limb failure and disfigurement.

## **TOPPING CAN LEAD TO:**

- Sunburn of the tissues beneath the bark.
  This can lead to cankers, bark splitting,
  and death of some branches.
- Branch hazards due to new shoots that grow below the cuts are weakly attached and are prone to breaking during windy or hot conditions.
- The tree looking unattractive. A topped tree looks disfigured and mutilated.
- Unnecessary expense! If the tree survives, it will require pruning sooner than regular trimming. Topped trees are prone to breaking, making them a potential liability.