

## TREE DOCTOR TIPS

### Chlorosis

#### DESCRIPTION:

Chlorosis is the result of a lack of chlorophyll production that may be caused by many conditions such as another disease, soil/water pH or nutritional imbalance, or tree wounds.

#### HOSTS:

Any plant that displays green foliage is susceptible to chlorosis. Trees that are suffering from wounds to the roots, trunk or branches may be at higher risk, along with trees that are in unhealthy or unbalanced soil.

#### BIOLOGY AND SYMPTOMS:

The first sign of chlorosis is the obvious yellowing or other pigmentation becoming visible in foliage that should be green. Soil conditions are a very common factor in the presence of chlorosis. Improper balances of acid or alkaline, soil that is too dry or too wet, or soil that does not have the proper nutrients to support the plant are significant problems that may result in chlorosis.

#### MANAGEMENT:

It is important to properly identify chlorosis as the problem before treating. Your arborist can help to identify chlorosis or the underlying problem causing it. Once identified, treatment may include several methods. To prevent chlorosis, proper water management is crucial. Overwatering or severe drought can both kill the roots and cause chlorosis. Mulching and fertilization are also important to keep the nutrients and soil balanced to maintain optimal tree health. Direct trunk injections of nutrients may also be helpful. Speak with your local arborist to find out what treatments might be right for your property.



A



B

FIGURE A. NORWAY MAPLE LEAF WITH INTERVEINAL CHLOROSIS

FIGURE B. SIGNS OF CHLOROSIS ON FOLIAGE OF A CHERRY TREE

*The scientists at **The Davey Institute** laboratory and research facility support our arborists and technicians in diagnosing and prescribing based on the latest arboricultural science. For specific treatment and application details, your arborist may consult *The Davey Institute's Plant Health Care Book*.*

