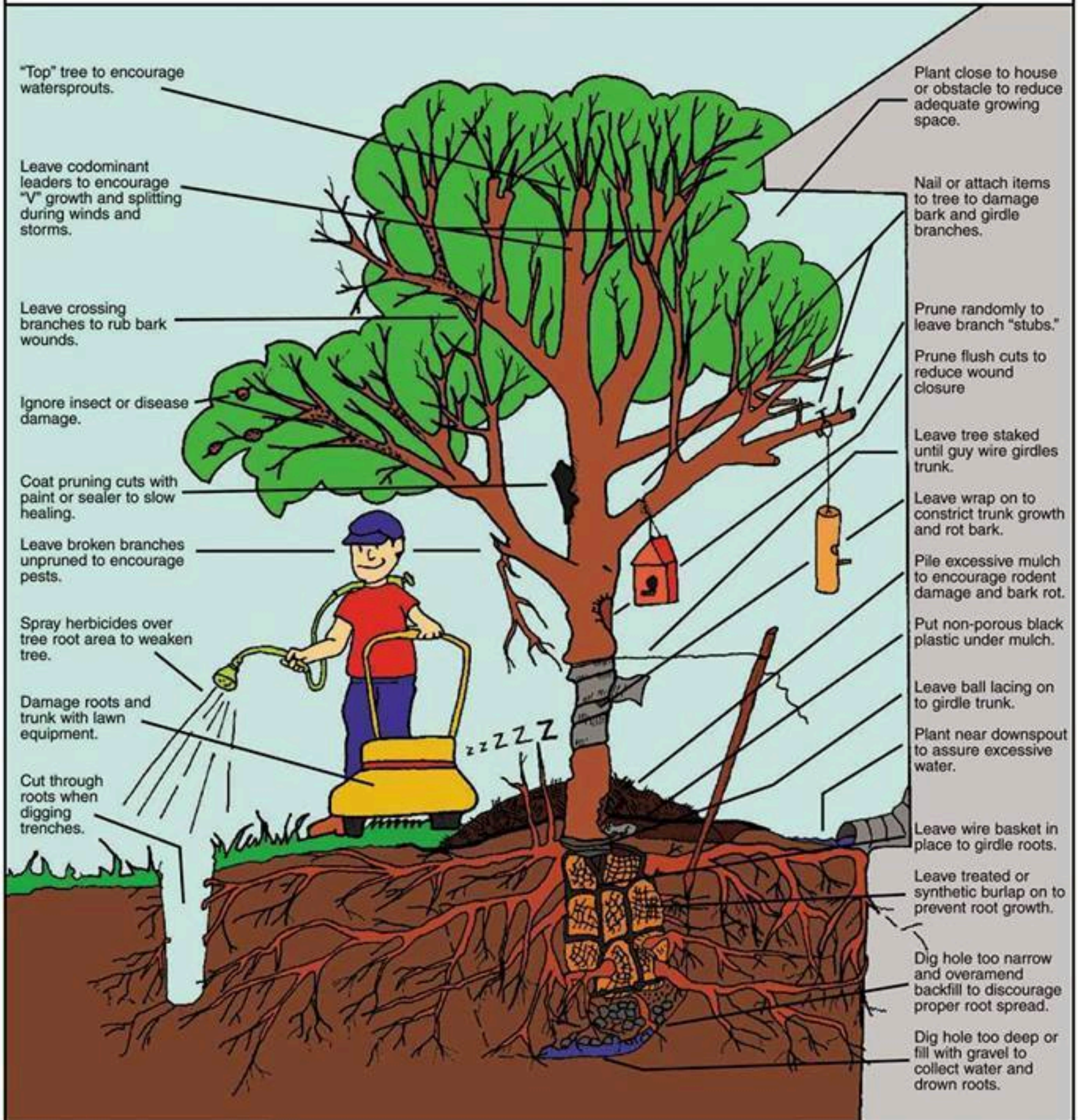




HOW TO KILL A TREE



Few residential trees die of "old age." Mechanical damage and improper tree care kill more trees than any insects or diseases. Avoid making the tree-damaging mistakes shown in the diagram below!



"Top" tree to encourage watersprouts.

Leave codominant leaders to encourage "V" growth and splitting during winds and storms.

Leave crossing branches to rub bark wounds.

Ignore insect or disease damage.

Coat pruning cuts with paint or sealer to slow healing.

Leave broken branches unpruned to encourage pests.

Spray herbicides over tree root area to weaken tree.

Damage roots and trunk with lawn equipment.

Cut through roots when digging trenches.

Plant close to house or obstacle to reduce adequate growing space.

Nail or attach items to tree to damage bark and girdle branches.

Prune randomly to leave branch "stubs."

Prune flush cuts to reduce wound closure

Leave tree staked until guy wire girdles trunk.

Leave wrap on to constrict trunk growth and rot bark.

Pile excessive mulch to encourage rodent damage and bark rot.

Put non-porous black plastic under mulch.

Leave ball lacing on to girdle trunk.

Plant near downspout to assure excessive water.

Leave wire basket in place to girdle roots.

Leave treated or synthetic burlap on to prevent root growth.

Dig hole too narrow and overamend backfill to discourage proper root spread.

Dig hole too deep or fill with gravel to collect water and drown roots.