



# Trim Trees with care

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Trees aren't just beautiful providers of shade. They're also home to many animals such as baby birds and squirrels. It's important to make sure you don't damage any animals nests or babies when you are trimming their tree. It's also a violation of city, state and federal law to damage or destroy nests or wildlife with fines from \$20,000 to \$100,000 per animal harmed.

There are generally baby birds and squirrels living in tree nests from February to October. These babies can't fly or run away when you trim their trees. The best time to trim their trees is in the late fall or winter. Then you can be pretty sure that there aren't any baby birds or squirrels. If you trim their tree during this time and see a nest, please remove then replace the nest when you are done. The adult birds and squirrels will still need a home once you are done trimming their tree. If you must trim their tree during spring or summer because of an emergency, please follow these guidelines. Always remove and replace empty or active nests.

**REMOVE THE NEST.** If you must trim a branch attached to a nest, please first remove the nest. Try to keep it as complete as possible. Place the complete nest in a box. Place this box in a warm safe place away from animals or humans. Cover the box with a towel.

**REPLACE THE NEST.** Replace the nest as close to the original location and height as possible when you are done trimming. If the nest is broken or lost, repair it with wire, twigs, leaves or make a new one out of a box with leaves on the bottom. Wire it to the tree securely. It's okay if you touch a baby. The mom will still take it.

If you did not see a nest and it fell to the ground, please pick it up as soon as possible. Inspect the babies. If they seem fine, replace the nest when you are done trimming. If they are injured beyond a few scratches, please call us so we may take care of them and return them when they are well.

Thanks so much for caring for the babies!

