

SuPerspective -

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Is the Process Economical?

I purchased the Arborjet Tree I.V. two pack kit for \$599 which gives you everything you need to get started except for the cordless drill. I added two more Tree I.V. units at \$199 each to help speed up my program. I first scoffed at the price of this equipment but after a season of use I feel that the Arborjet equipment is worth every penny, very durable and easy to use.

Also, keep in mind that this same equipment can be used to inject nutrients or fungicides into your trees. We injected a chlorotic oak with iron and a chlorotic maple with manganese this past season. I began injecting trees mid-summer and stopped in late September. Each tree that has been injected has also been tagged with a number. I keep a log with date of injection, size, location, volume of Tree-äge injected, and current appearance. I've injected 256 ash trees to date and will treat another 35-40 next season.

Any Special Licenses?

A pesticide license, an Arborjet kit, and Tree-äge is all you need to get started. Keep in mind that this pest is relatively new and that control measure research keeps coming in. All of the data that I've come across tells me that I've chosen the best possible method to combat this pest. The research tells me that my trees are going to be protected for at least two years and I wouldn't doubt that by this time next year I'll find that this single treatment will be good for three years.

Some Math:

Tree-Age case price = 53¢/ML

20" ash = 110 ML - 110 x .53 = \$58.30

Arborplugs @ 59¢ ea - 8 x .59 = \$4.72

\$58.30 + \$4.72 = \$63.02/20" tree for two years or \$31.51/year

300 x \$63.02 = \$18,906 (good for at least two years)

Versus:

300 trees x \$250 removed = \$75,000

300 trees x \$50 stumped = \$15,000

300 x \$500 tree replacement = \$150,000

\$240,000 could treat our ash trees for 25 years minimum.

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Tree Injection Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul

By THOMAS SCHMIDT

Superintendent, Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul

I am the Superintendent at Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul and have been a Superintendent 10 years.

Hillcrest is a private golf club with 12,000 to 15,000 rounds per year.

Hillcrest was a public golf course that opened in 1921. Hillcrest was established as a country club in 1945.

I have been injecting my trees at Hillcrest for six to seven years, I started out treating the elm trees and have since moved on to injecting insecticides for the Japanese beetle. After injecting, we would see the beetles on the ground around the tree. The numbers of dead beetles were in the thousands which helps my cause because they are not laying their eggs in my turf. This helped reduce my beetle count tremendously and I have seen a huge reduction in damaged turf and trees.

My tree injecting budget was \$4,000 a year just for the elm trees. I spend 1/3 of that now and am treating more trees. I have saved my club approximately \$17,000 over the period of six years with the Arborjet tree injection system.



Superintendent Tom Schmidt injects a tree at Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul.

This system, I found at the National show year's ago, has paid for itself many times over, it is easy to use, fast and very user-friendly.

With the ash borer approaching I will

be treating 40 key ash trees over the next couple of years and will hopefully save our club trees and our pocket books.

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