

tween \$18,000 and \$22,000 invested in each tower," he says. To get a return on investment, towers must be operated regularly. Under normal conditions, a tower for this Hoosier arborist will be ready to trade in 10 to 12 years.

Because Ft. Wayne has many stately trees adjacent to the curb, workers often find utility wires to work around. Ralph says that his towers are highly insulated, particularly in the upper boom and bucket areas, decreasing the risk of an electrical shock. Nevertheless, "in training our people, we bring utility experts in to explain about certain wires, which ones to stay away from, and which ones you are relatively safe in working close to," he says.

Mobile Aerial Towers people second this move. Accordingly, every tower manufactured is subjected to an electrical test of 150 thousand volts. In addition, other rigid tests include a three times structural overload test and a one-and-a-half times tipping test.

At day's end we left Ralph knowing that as an arborist he is pleased with this type bucket. It fits in his operation and with his other equipment. His 35 employees find that the Hi-Ranger is not just another piece of machinery, but rather a tool needed to accomplish a job.

One point Ralph made over coffee during the day seems to fit here. "We'd have to substantially increase our workforce in order to handle the number of trees we currently trim if we didn't have towers," he said. "We don't want to do that. We want to keep the high caliber men we have now. Mobile Aerial Towers have the kind of tower that we like better than any we've seen so far."

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tree care is necessary, and important in the effort to beautify our land. It explains the life functions of a tree, shows the layman how to recognize signs of trouble, and provides a calendar of tree care to indicate when work should be done.

How to plant small, bare-root trees, move large trees to home grounds, and protect trees from insect attack and disease are described and illustrated with charts and photographs.

How to select trees for shade, flowering or special effects, wind-breaks and screens, and fall color is also covered, presenting lists of popular and new varieties, their height at maturity and other characteristics such as climatic zones, color of blossoms, and rate of growth.

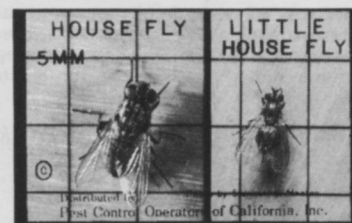
Recommended "do's and don'ts" help the homeowner plan the best location for new trees, avoid common landscape mistakes, and create grounds that will increase in beauty and desirability.

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