



UPPER MERION TREE STEWARDS 2020

Tree Stewards are asked to:

- View the instructional video posted on the Upper Merion Township website
- Review Poison Ivy identification online – Leaves of 3, Let it be.
- Perform ONLY the maintenance activities as described and demonstrated
- Follow safety recommendations as per instructions and Covid-19 guidelines
- Register on UM Park Partners webpage:
<https://www.umtownship.org/departments/parks-recreation/parks-trails/park-partners/>

Bring with you (no tool sharing except within family groups):

- Container for mulch (recommend a 5-gallon bucket or equivalent)
- Weeding tool – cultivator, trowel or soil knife
- Mallet or other pounding tool (optional)
- Work gloves
- Water bottle
- Wear hat, long pants/ long sleeves to protect against insects and ticks, sun, poison ivy

Weeding:

1. Locate the tree within the deer protection.
2. Pull out all plants surrounding the stem of the tree, within a radius of 2-3 feet, either by hand or gently with a surface weeding tool. Do not disturb the roots of the tree.
3. Loosen the soil surface surrounding the stem of the tree. This may be accomplished by the pulling of the weeds.

Mulching:

4. Apply mulch to the weeded area, no deeper than 3 inches. Never allow mulch to touch the stem of the tree.
5. **Stake and Cage:** Check the integrity of the stake and cage. Remove and replace zip tie after weed & mulch if cage needs to be reset (zip ties will be available). Pound in the stake if necessary. Arrange fencing to enclose tree branches if possible. Some tree branches may have grown outside the fencing. Do not break branches – better to leave them out of the fencing.