



*English ivy can choke—and kill*  
the beautiful trees that give our yards and neighborhoods  
shade and character. What *looks* like a lovely little green  
plant can actually strangle trees, accelerate rot, attract  
mosquitoes and cause mature trees to  
fall down during storms.

**Follow instructions on the reverse side  
to protect your trees today.**

# Ivy is a threat to the trees of Northern Virginia. Thankfully, it is a beatable one.

Old tree-lined streets, neighborhood parks, shaded decks and secret gardens add comfort and character to our lives. These places are special because of the incredible trees that provide the privacy, shade and character that we cherish so much.

Our trees add value to our properties and quality to our lives. That is why we've invested so much time and money into landscaping, nurturing and maintaining our trees and gardens. The investment is worth it. Unfortunately, English ivy is a threat to that investment.

**Protect your trees, landscaping investments and home by cutting ivy away from your trees. Follow these simple steps, as recommended by arborists and horticulturists:**



① Use garden clippers to cut ivy at the bottom around the entire trunk of all infested trees.



② Pull all ivy vines out of the ground around the base of the tree, making a 2 feet "life saver ring" around the tree. This will protect the tree from future infestations.



③ Once cut, leave ivy on the tree. Do not pull it off because that could harm the tree. Ivy will gradually blend into the tree bark after it is cut.

*Sponsored by TreeStewards and Arlington Regional Master Naturalists under a grant from the Tree Canopy Fund.*



## Dangers of English Ivy

- English ivy can strangle trees. Ivy adds significant weight, which cause mature trees to fall down in storms and strong winds.
- Once ivy is in the tree tops, it can block necessary sunlight from the trees' leaves or needles. Dense ivy cover competes with the tree for nutrients and water.
- Thick ivy growth can accelerate rot by holding in moisture, which can also attract mosquitoes.

Learn how to remove ivy from your trees by visiting [www.TreeStewards.org](http://www.TreeStewards.org) or [www.ARMN.org](http://www.ARMN.org)