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Topping Trees is a Bad Practice

lieve that stimulation of new growth associated with topping is actually beneficial to the tree. Although the tree appears rejuvenated with new foliage and branches, this only serves to mask the real damage. Trees are mistakenly topped, under the best of intentions, to remove potentially hazardous dead and diseased branches. Unfortunately, topping indiscriminately removes healthy and unhealthy limbs. Problem limbs are best removed by selective pruning instead of topping. In some situations, removing large limbs may be necessary; however, correct pruning alternatives such as proper early training, selective thinning out of branches and limbs, or whole tree removal should be considered and adopted.

Removing much of the tree canopy upsets the crown-to-root ratio and cause serious interruption of the tree's food supply and exposes bark to the sun. A 20-year-old tree has developed 20 years worth of leaf surface area. This leaf surface is needed to manufacture sufficient food to feed and support 20 years worth of branches, trunks and roots. Removing the tree's normal canopy suddenly exposes

bark to the sun's direct rays, often scalding newly exposed outer bark. Serve sun scald will cause the bark to split and obstruct the flow of nutrients. Topping not only cuts off a major portion of the tree's food-making potential, it also severely depletes the tree's stored reserves. It is an open invitation for the tree's slow starvation.

Large branch stubs left from topping seldom close or callus. Nutrients are no longer transported to large stubs and that part of the tree becomes unable to seal off the injury. This leaves stubs vulnerable to insect invasion and fungal decay. Once decay has begun in a branch stub, it may spread into the main trunk, ultimately killing the tree.

Topping removes all existing buds that would ordinarily produce normal sturdy branches and instead stimulates re-growth of dense, upright branches just below the pruning cut. The watersprouts or suckers that result from topping are not well integrated into the wood of the tree and because of their weak connections and vulnerability will frequently break. Large limbs then fall creating a dangerous situation that must be

remedied by tree removal. Since watersprout re-growth is generally rapid and vigorous, a topped tree often will grow back to its original height faster and denser than a tree that has been properly pruned or thinned. This makes topping, at best, only a temporary solution to oversized trees. Some tree species such as sugar maple, oak and beech do not readily produce watersprouts. Without the resulting foliage, a bare trunk results and the tree quickly dies. Deteriorating branch stubs, along with weak sucker growth, make topped trees highly vulnerable to wind and ice damage.

From an aesthetic aspect, topping disfigures the tree. Unsightly branch stubs, conspicuous pruning cuts and a broom-like branch growth replace its natural beauty and form. For more information on topping and pruning information, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

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5 4 7 5 6 3 4 3 7 8 3 4 6
O F C R K U U N H B S T N
5 7 8 4 5 6 5 7 6 5 2 7 5
I E U U G O I R W N H I A
4 3 6 5 6 2 7 3 6 5 7 4 7
R E L L E A S L D I H E Y
4 7 8 4 7 4 5 6 3 6 2 6 5
U O S N U C D G F E P I E
7 6 5 6 5 7 6 7 3 8 3 2 7
R S A Y S H O O I Y S P M
4 7 8 4 8 6 3 8 6 8 3 6 3
L E F O U U H T R U A S I
4 3 8 2 8 2 4 2 4 2 4 2 2
U D R Y E T D I E M D E S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: X equals I

DNVG ISPV NVGI MJV XGXRXTTF

KVRRXGK RNVXJ NSRVT JSSPI,

DSATU FSA BMTT XR M BNxBCVG

BNVBC-XG?

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

GOGDSABG AKWZJ JA TA

JIA JZLBWC GENZ TES

JZEJ ZG ZEJGC JA TA,

QKCJ XAD MDENJLNG.

— ILUULER QERGC

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Puzzle Answers

February 27, 2019

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

What should you do if you break a tooth while flossing?

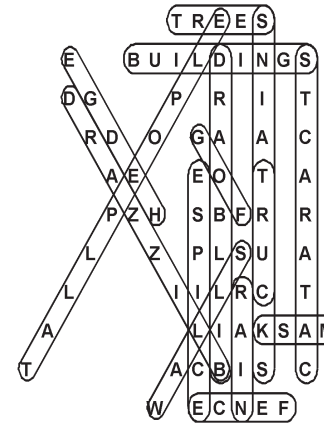
Fix it with tooth paste.

Letter Box

Solution

U	I	J	A	O	N	C	B	L
O	B	N	C	L	I	U	A	J
L	A	C	J	B	U	N	O	I
I	L	O	B	N	A	J	C	U
C	N	B	U	J	L	O	I	A
A	J	U	I	C	O	B	L	N
N	C	A	L	U	B	I	J	O
J	O	I	N	A	C	L	U	B
B	U	L	O	I	J	A	N	C

BLOCKING YOUR VIEW



CryptoQuip

When some hens are initially getting their hotel rooms, would you call it a chicken check-in?

CryptoQuote

Everyone ought to do two things each day that he hates to do, just for practice.
— William James

FEAR & KNOT

answer



Even Exchange

answers

- Pellet, Pallet
- Wrist, Whist
- Carbon, Carton
- Ditch, Pitch
- Tough, Touch
- Bigger, Bagger
- Leash, Least
- Single, Tingle
- Greet, Green
- Water, Waver

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

4	3	8	5	1	9	6	2	7
7	9	1	6	8	2	5	4	3
6	5	2	7	4	3	1	8	9
1	4	9	3	6	8	2	7	5
8	2	6	1	5	7	9	3	4
3	7	5	2	9	4	8	6	1
9	6	4	8	3	1	7	5	2
5	1	7	4	2	6	3	9	8
2	8	3	9	7	5	4	1	6

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

F	L	A	G	N	A	I	D	A	M		
E	U	R	O	O	V	A	L	I	V	E	
A	B	E	L	T	O	N	Y	E	E	N	
R	E	A	D	I	N	K	G	U	R	U	
E	L	F	E	G	O						
B	A	R	N	E	Y	E	N	L	A	C	E
S	C	U	B	A							
A	T	T	E	S	T	S	M	E	L	T	S
A	T	E									
B	O	O	R	P	R	O	C	A	K	E	
A	R	K	S	E	E	D	A	S	T	A	
B	A	R	H	E	A	D	L	E	E	S	
A	L	A	E	S	P	Y	F	A	V	E	

Americanisms



“One of the tragedies of real life is that there is no background music.”
— Annie Proulx, “The Shipping News”

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Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS [sic].
by Terry Stickels

Here is an interesting math puzzle that isn't as difficult as it appears.

Can you find the lowest number that,
when divided by 2, has a remainder of 1;
when divided by 3, has a remainder of 2;
when divided by 4, has a remainder of 3;
and when divided by 5, has a remainder of 4?

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

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Farming News

from Extension Agent Eric Baker

Farmers Should Document Flooding and Storm Damage

Estill County has seen significant flooding this week and many farmers have flood damage and scattered debris that will have to be removed from the fields. In addition, spring time storms can damage property as well. After discussing this situation with USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), it is suggested that farmers document damage with pictures, labor and repair receipts, third-party witness statement, and other records that can help prove the loss. If any assistance program is made available, proper documentation will be necessary.

For more details, farmers can contact the Madison County FSA at 859-624-1980. Above all, please be safe in dealing with any flooded areas and debris cleanup.

Thursday, February 28th @ 6:30pm

Genetically Engineered Crops

Estill Cooperative Extension will host a seminar to provide scientific, research-based information on the risks and benefits of genetically engineered crops, sometimes called GMO's technology.

Our seminar on the Risks & Benefits of Genetically Engineered Crops will be Thursday, February 28th, 6:30 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office 76 Golden Court in Irvine. Our guest speaker is Dr. Paul Vincelli, UK Extension Plant Pathologist. Please call 723-4557 if you are coming so we can have enough handouts for everyone.

Friday, March 8th @ 6:30pm

Beef Quality Care Assurance Training

Attention cattle producers! The Estill County Cooperative Extension Service will host a Beef Quality Care Assurance (BQCA) training on Friday, March 8th, 6:30 p.m., at the Extension office, 76 Golden Court, Irvine. Participants will have a comprehensive training including proper cattle handling techniques, proper nutrition, animal health procedures, health disorders, handling facilities and hauling, and more. Everyone will take short written exams per module and those passing will receive a manual, chute-side procedural sheet, and a trailering bumper sticker. The cost for the certification is \$5 which is payable by check to the Kentucky Beef Network. There is an option to receive a barn sign for an additional \$5 fee. For more information or to pre-register, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

Thursday, March 14th @ 6:00pm

March Cattle Producer Meeting

Extension and Estill County Cattlemen's Association are having a cattle producer meeting on Thursday, March 14th, 6:00 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office. The meeting is sponsored by Multimin USA, producer of an injectable trace mineral product for cattle. Multimin technical veterinarian Dr. Dan Tracy will discuss trace minerals, different forms of supplementation, challenges that exist that impact the trace mineral status of cattle, and influence of trace minerals have on cattle immune and reproductive system. A catered meal will be provided. Please pre-register by March 11th by calling 723-4557. Estill County Cattlemen's Association will have a business meeting afterward.

Bible Trivia Answers

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.

ANSWER: (1) Neither; (2) Eat; (3) Blood; (4) Jethro; (5) Martha; (6) Life