

**NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF FORESTBURG
BLACK KNOT INFESTATION
ON ORNAMENTAL TREES – November 6, 2008**

Black Knot, caused by the fungus *Apiosporina morbosa* is a very common disease which may infect ornamental trees of the following varieties →

Amur Cherry	Mayday Tree
Apricot	Mongolian Cherry
Black Cherry	Nanking Cherry
Chokecherry	Pin Cherry
Dropmore Cherry	Cultivated Plum
Flowering Almond	Wild Plum
Flowering Plum	Prunus Hybrids
Japanese Plum	Sand Cherry
Korean Cherry	Sour Cherry

This disease reduces the aesthetic value of affected specimens, as infections spread rapidly; high levels may result in the eventual death of the plant.

The Village has determined a large number of ornamental boulevard trees are infested with black knot. Public Works will be attending to these trees as soon as possible. We need YOUR HELP TO STOP THE SPREAD OF BLACK KNOT. Please look at your trees, there are infected trees on private property in the village.

How do you recognize Black Knot?

-Look for a black tar-like swelling on branches.



Spread of fungus

- **The fungus overwinters in the knots**
- **The spores are discharged following warm wet weather beginning in the spring**
- **Rainfall and temperature are the key factors in the release of spores which are spread by air current and rain splashing**

What can be done to control Black Knot?

- **Prune out all knot-bearing branches during late fall, winter or very early spring**
- **Remove branch and 15-20 cm (6-8 inches) below knot. As a precaution, ensure blade is disinfected between cuts**
- **For knot on scaffold branches or trunks that can't be removed, cut away diseased tissue down to good wood and at least 1 cm (1/2 inch) beyond the edge of the knot**
- **Failure to remove branches beyond the internal growth will result in re-growth**
- **DISEASED WOOD MUST BE DESTROYED IMMEDIATELY (burned)**

PLEASE CONTACT THE VILLAGE OFFICE TO HAVE PUBLIC WORKS PICK UP TRIMMINGS WITH BLACK KNOT. THIS WILL BE DONE FREE OF CHARGE. PHONE 780 582- 3668

Your voluntary co-operation will greatly help the survival of our beautiful trees.

More information is available on:

**The Alberta Government Website: www1.agric.gov.ab.ca
– search" Black Knot"**

Information links available on Village Website: www.forestburg.ca