

Member's Corner

Let's Get to Know.... Tom Yelvington, with Yellowstone Valley Tree Surgeons.

With a company slogan of “We’ll go out on a limb for you”, you know that Tom not only has a good sense of humor, but that he will also go the extra mile for his customers. He has been the owner and operator of Yellowstone Valley Tree Surgeons since 1981, and an MNLA member since 2012. His company provides tree trimming, removal, plant health care, air spade root excavation, traq risk assessments, tree appraisals, and expert witness services. With a business profile like that, you probably won’t be surprised to learn that he has been working around trees most of his life. In fact, he got started in this line of work by working with his stepdad in the logging industry. He’s had some pretty interesting experiences over the years, including the time his team pruned a spruce according to all recommended ISA guidelines, only to have it split in half in the first windstorm. Tom says “If we hadn’t pruned it, the tree would have held together. Lesson learned – rules don’t always apply.” With years of experience in this industry, the one tool Tom recommends other MNLA members consider is the Air Spade; it can be used to dig around utility wires without damage, and to repair defective, life-ending, root issues at the time of planting.



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