

# Preventing Trunk Damage

A tip sheet from Loma Vista Nursery



## Causes of Trunk Damage

Contact with mowers and grass trimmers, deer rub, sunscald and frost cracks are some of the causes of trunk damage in the landscape. Sunscald and frost cracks are noticeable on the south and southwest side of the trees.

Frost cracks are caused by fluctuating temperatures and sap moving when temperatures are dropping.

Sunscald from the winter sun occurs when the lower branches that were shading the trunk have been removed.

## Preventing Damage

Tree wrap is a low cost solution to preventing trunk damage. Available in rolls, tree wrap is a paper product that is wrapped around the trunk from the base of the tree to the lowest branches.

Apply tree wrap in late fall to help prevent damage due to deer rub, sunscald and frost cracks. The wrap will reflect the sun and help keep temperatures from fluctuating.

Young trees should be wrapped their first two winters. Thin barked trees should be wrapped their first five winters.

Remove the tree wrap in spring after the last frost.

## Festive Trunk Wrap?

Though a festive look, Christmas lights would look better wrapped around a healthy tree trunk.

Prevent damaged tree trunks by taking the time to wrap young trees in the fall or early winter.



12905 W. 143rd Street, Olathe, Kansas 66062  
Phone: 913-897-7010, Fax: 913-681-5306  
[www.lomavistanursery.com](http://www.lomavistanursery.com)