Anthracnose is a condition caused by many different fungi on ash, oak, maple, and sycamore trees growing in Minnesota. The fungi infect newly emerging leaf tissues in the spring. The fungi cause dead blotches on the leaves. Infected leaves will often fall off the tree in mid to late summer disrupting photosynthesis and transpiration. Repeat defoliation by anthracnose can reduce tree health.

**Attacks**: Ash, Oak, Maple, Sycamore

**What you will see:**

- Large tannish blotches and leaf distortion
- Discrete spots to irregular patches of discoloration
- Leaf blotches along leaf veins
- Shoot blight, leaf blight and twig and branch cankers
- Spring leaf drop

**Life cycle:**

- Infection are initiated each year from spores splashed by rain or blown by wind from on dead leaves from last season or on twigs
- New infections occur as spots on newly expanding leaves
- The fungus may also infect leaves, fruit, petioles, and blossoms
- Primary infections produce secondary spores which infect other leaves and fruit
- Secondary infections continue throughout the growing season during wet periods
Cultural Managements for Anthracnose

Cultural practices:
- Plant less susceptible cultivars
- Increase tree vigor
  - Root Enhancement System™
  - Fertilization
- Prune out infected branches (sycamore)
- Rake and remove infected leaves in the fall

Chemical Practices
- Fungicides are available to prevent infection
- Contact your city or an arborist for details

For more information on prevention and management please contact the City of Maple Grove or a Consulting Arborist with the Urban Forestry Institute.

An integrated approach
When caring for urban trees it is important to make a complete evaluation of all environmental conditions to accurately diagnose all stress factors and prescribe care based on specific circumstances. This prescriptive care will help your tree meet its full potential.

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