Q: How often do you mulch, water, or fertlize your trees?

A: My trees? Well, not on a regular basis. Now, we've only been here since 2007 - it's a brand new house. So, uh, you can see that there are some existing trees from way back. Um -

Q: I see there is a spruce? No that's a pine right?

A: Oh, i don't know what that is. I think it's a fir tree, it's very soft. The big one?

Q: yeah

A: And then there was another one almost as big as this over in the corner and it died. I think it had dutch elm disease so we had to have that taken down. So -

Q: So how often did you say you are fertlizing or watering, like your - once in a growing season ...

A: I don't specifically water those, I mean I have a sprinkler system that takes care of everything.

Q: And is that sprinkler system automated or?

A: Yes

Q: And that's once a day or twice a day, or once week?

A: Um I think I have it set for three times a week. And i did have, Davey Tree [?] came in and fertlized all the trees and shrubs last year cause I had a problem with a tree out front. And um, so he just fertlized everything.

Q: And would they come in every year to do that for you?

A: Well, they probably would if I asked them to. But I don't, no I'm not into that, right. I'll probably spray some of the, uh put a spray fertlizer on some of the cedar and things. But normally we don't really do that much as far as fertlizing is concerned.

Q: Are there any trees on your property that you would like to remove and if so what's stopping you from removing them...

A: No. We like trees ... We were really disapointed when that one died actually, because when we bought the house it was okay. And by the time we moved in like three months later it was dead. it was really sad. And then i asked to about this one, because I think they told me it was an ash. And that's the one with the ash borer, um, that might be a problem. And they said they -

....

A: What ever it was, I asked them if there was anything I could do to protect it. And they said 'well yeah, except that whatever, whatever is that affects these trees, if there was a tree within I think it was 500m of my tree that had this disease, the city would just make me take it down regardless. So he said there really wasn't any point in trying to do anything.

Q: Have you ever had any interaction with the city regarding street trees in front of your property or have you recieved any information from the city regarding tree care or tree by-laws

A: Um, huh not really. Um, well I was talking to somebody that was here, uh, looking at street trees that needed to be trimmed because of the wires. And told them that maybe they should trim this one because the wires were laying on the, on the limbs. And they said, ' nuh it's okay.' And then we had to get permission to take that one down because the builder had, or the trees were all tagged on the property. And so if anything happened we had to contact somebody at the city about the trees and we had to have someone come out and say ' yes, this one was officially dead' and it was okay to take it down.

Q: So based, like, on what ever need to had, that's when you were able to contact them, but you did any flyer, or any kind of like, nobody came in person this is how you take care of trees and these are the trees -

A; Yeah. No there was something that came around a couple years ago about um, if we were interested in having the city plant trees on the boulevards around our houses. And I called them and told them yeah, you know, to go ahead and do what they wanted here because that would have been nice. But they, they reported back that because of the wires they wouldn't do it. So that was too bad.

A: [ speaking about the number of mature trees in the neighbourhood] They're so big. Except they're kinda scary in a storm sometimes. You know because you see this one here and it wavers back forth. And the people in this house next door have had a lot of, um limbs from the great big trees outside their house come down in their driveway and ontop of their cars. So, that's not good.

Q; have you recieved any useful information in the last year about taking care of plant's, trees...

A: no

Q: are there any conflicts between the activities you want to do in your back yard or front yard, and the shade that's being created by the trees.

A: No.

Q: Do you ever feel that there is a conflict between um, when you want to grow food versus the trees that you have, do you think there conflict between lets say the amount of space available, the shade that it's creating, the resources that a tree or shrub might require versus you trying to grow ...

A: some times we think we're a little cramped. like, these shrubs here grew a lot bigger than we expected them to. So, yeah we've got things pretty crammed in. But we've actually grown almost as much stuff in smaller spaces than that depending on where we've lived.

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A: They're [the cedars] not doing very well. if you'd like to tell somebody to bring back pesticides that would be okay.

Q: Is it because of the - maybe there is too much shade there

A: No. When I had the tree company in looking at my tree out front. he told me that a couple of the cedars had um, leaf miner and he said um, 'unfortunately we're not allowed to do anything. all of those products have been taken off the market now.' So there's nothing I can do. So, I guess when they don't look very good I'm just going have take them out and replace them... Then he also told me that some of them might have transplant shock and that that can last for 7 years. That seems like a long time. But I did have, like out front, I have two blue spruce. they were identical when they were planted and for the first couple of years. And then last spring one of them looked really aweful and it didn't grow. And it's really sickly looking now. And he said that he thought it was transplant shock because it didn't have any diseases or anything. So they just fertlized it and said well you'll have to see what happens... but they both came exactly the same and they are planted side by side, you know so ... but this year it does have some new growth on it and so I'm hopeful that it will come around, right