

BLACK OLIVE TREE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



May 2026
City of Coral Gables

CORAL
GABLES
THE CITY BEAUTIFUL



The Black Olive Tree

BARK



CANOPY



LEAF



Urban Forestry

The Black Olive tree (*Bucida buceras*) is a cornerstone of our residential landscapes and municipal streets.

Key statistics

- *Over 9,600 trees city wide.*
- *Comprises 25% of our urban forest*
- *Critical provider of shade and cooling*



The staining challenge

Community Nuisance

Homeowners frequently report rust-colored staining on driveways, sidewalks, and vehicles parked under the canopy.

Left unmanaged, this issue leads to property damage and requests for tree removal, threatening our overall canopy goals.

Aesthetic Impact

The oily, persistent residue is difficult to remove and diminishes the visual appeal of our historic neighborhoods.

Traditional cleaning requires frequent bleaching and power washing, which provides only temporary relief.

Meet the culprits



Bucida Caterpillar

Feeding produces frass (droppings) that cause severe sidewalk staining.



Eriophyid Mite

Creates "green bean" galls that release oily stains when moisture is present.



The Result

Severe rust-colored staining of hardscapes directly under the pest-infested canopy..

Effectiveness of Treatment

Untreated Trees

Rating :4.2 (severe)

Compromised trees

Rating:3.5 (moderate)

Treated (Healthy Trees)

Rating:0.5 (none)

*Trees with existing health issues (bark damage/decay) have reduced product uptake.

The Method: Trunk Injection

We utilize the latest systemic injection technology to deliver treatment directly into the tree's vascular system.

- *Rapid Uptake: Works internally to stop pests.*
- *Long Lasting: Effective for 1–2 years.*
- *Eco-Friendly: No soil or air contamination.*



Why Injections Over Sprays?

- **No Chemical Drift:** Traditional spraying can be carried by wind; injections remain entirely within the tree.
- **Safe for Residents:** No exposure for people, pets, or pollinators who are not feeding on the tree's vascular tissue.
- **Water Protection:** Avoids soil drenching which can lead to runoff into our canals and water systems.
- **Targeted Efficacy:** Delivers the precise dose required directly to where pests feed.

Annual Program Operations

Program Phase	Description	Timing
Priority Selection	Identification of high-staining trees in city swales.	Jan - Feb
Injection Season	Treatment of approx. 2,000 mature trees annually.	Mar - Apr
Visual Monitoring	Post-treatment evaluations and stain rating.	Jun - Aug
Public Reporting	Data review and program planning for next cycle.	September

Homeowner Participation

Request Tree Treatment

Residents with Black Olive trees in public city swales can request to be included in the annual injection cycle.

Criteria for inclusion:

- Severity of staining on hardscapes.
- Overall health and vigor of the tree.



THANK YOU



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