

Maintenance of orchard grounds should be done with care. Weed eaters and mowers can cause damage to tree trunks, tree shoots, and shrubs. Significant damage can kill the tree. For region-specific information, please contact your local Giving Grove partner.



Weed eater damage to a tree

Weed Eater (String Trimmer) & Mower Damage

- Weed eater and mowers attack the trunk and shoots of trees and shrubs.
- Once the bark has been damaged, an open wound can lead to insect damage, fungal infection, and bark splitting.
- If the wound goes around entire trunk, it will kill the tree!
- Mower tires also compact the soil around the base of the tree. Compacted soil restricts tree growth.

HOW TO CONTROL:

- Maintain a wide ring of mulch (at least 30" radius) around the tree.
- Make sure all weeds and grass are removed from the mulch circle around the tree.
- Educate the mowing crew about tree damage, or do the mowing yourself.
- Wrap the tree trunk with window screen material in high damage areas.
- Remove rootstock suckers. Many mow crews will attack these with string trimmers causing more damage.