

## Pit Scale on Red Oaks

*If you have Red Oaks on your property, they very likely have an insect called Pit Scale*

- **These insects feed in the same areas on the limbs of Red Oaks year after year**, creating depressions or “pits” on the surface of the branch.
- Pit Scale will cause stress, reduce vigor and result in stem die-back. **Stressed trees are more susceptible to other pathogens**, which can lead to their demise.
- **Horticultural Oil is the best solution for Pit Scale problems.** A very refined oil; it is sprayed to control over-wintering insects and other fungal organisms.
- **Horticultural Oil is safe and non-toxic to humans and pets.**
- **Efforts are made to minimize spray into swimming pools and onto windows.** Some of the spray solution may drift with wind currents. It may cause cloudiness in pools lasting about 24 hours. Normal cleaning or rinsing of windows will remove residue.
- **Horticultural Oil is applied when trees and other plants are not putting on new growth.** In our Dallas-Fort Worth area, this window is typically December through March.



*If you are interested in having your trees sprayed for Pit Scale, please contact us before the middle of February. Weather conditions and the limited window of time in the early spring to control this problem can sometimes make scheduling this service a challenge. The more time we have to plan for spraying, the better service we can provide for our clients.*