Preparing Trees for Hurricanes

Today on Gardening in a Minute: preparing trees for hurricanes.

Hurricanes are part of life in Florida and tree damage is very common. But you can make trees in your landscape more hurricane-resistant, so that you can worry less when a storm is about to hit.

The best way to protect your landscape and home from hurricane damage is to select trees carefully.

Select trees with strong root systems, trunks, and branches. Choose species that are more wind-resistant, and plant them away from utilities and structures.

Correct pruning will also help trees survive hurricanes. Prune them so they develop a sturdy, well-spaced framework of healthy branches around a central leader. The canopy edge can be thinned, allowing air to pass through freely.

If you think ahead and prepare, your trees and property are more likely to survive the hurricane season.

For more information about preparing trees for hurricanes and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.