

Storm Damage - Can This Tree Be Saved?

Hopefully, your trees survived the onslaught of Hurricane Nicholas intact. If you are like many of us, however, your trees may be showing everything from leaf loss to entire trees toppling over.

Trees can be like people in that healthy, strong species will weather stressful events better than those which have less than ideal vitality before the event occurs. Good care is crucial for a tree to be able to survive severe weather.

Even after experiencing high winds, many trees can be restored. However, restore only trees that have major limbs, trunk, and roots intact. To be a good candidate for restoration a tree should not have cracks in major limbs or the trunk, decayed wood, or bark inclusions (where bark is included in the union or crotch of two stems or in the union of a branch and trunk). Roots should not be exposed or lifted out of the soil. Also make sure the branch and trunk structure were good prior to the storm.

Here is a website with more information:

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/miami-dade/documents/disaster-preparation/hurricane-and-disaster/Assessing-Damage-and-Restoring-Trees-After-a-Hurricane-Gilman.pdf>

Should you decide you need to remove and replace a tree, here is a website to help you select trees which do well in our area: <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/files/2010/10/plantselection.pdf> See pages 8 through 10 for the tree list.