

The **peach tree** problem is [peach leaf curl](#) -- a fungus that spreads particularly in wet weather. Diseased leaves will fall off and be replaced by new leaves ... unless it is rainy. PLC can stunt the tree -- if fruit forms, consider thinning it -- and if not controlled for a few years, it can do enough damage that the tree must be removed.

The primary prevention is to plant resistant varieties. For non-resistant varieties, prune the tree and apply a fungicide every fall *after* leaves have fallen (remove the debris), and if it's a wet winter spray again in spring just when the leaf buds are swelling. The spray needs to cover the tree, to the point that it is dripping. Available fungicides will likely be copper-based; check with the City, the [Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs](#), or a tree nursery to know what is permitted for use here. Spraying is tedious but worth it: a healthy peach tree is a thing of joy, and you're preventing the fungus from spreading to other locations as well.

(Prepared by Kate Hamilton, June 2017)