

Pikes Peak Bonsai Society

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This Month's Meeting will be on

October 18 @ Firehouse #14

1875 Dublin Blvd. 80918 , from 7 to 9 pm



Wiring

In last month's meeting we talked about wiring and we also practiced wiring some of our trees.

Wiring can be quite challenging especially to a beginner bonsai enthusiast. The necessity is born out of the need to modify the natural arrangement of branches to encourage them to grow to one of the classic styles.

When styling your bonsai, each and every branch and twig must be wired and positioned, it is this attention to detail in the initial stage of styling that will make a difference between a mediocre and a show tree.

Equipment you will need:

- a. Wire – copper, brass or anodised aluminum wire, occasionally steel wire are utilized (although rust may present a problem) of different gauges. Thicker wire will be used for the trunk and thick branches and thinner wire for thinner branches and twigs.
- b. Small wire cutter and large wire cutter
- c. Pliers
- d. Scissors



Though it is strictly not wiring equipment the following are recommended:

1. Trunk wrench – enables you to bend larger trunks or branches into shape.
2. Rubber or PVC tubing – to fit around wire to protect branches when tie wires are utilized.
3. Turn buckles – to be utilized with wires.

The Technique:

It consists of wiring a length of wire spirally at about 45 degrees around the trunk or branch which will allow you to bend or shape the branch or trunk into the desired shape. The wire should not be too tight as it can cut off the sap flow and will eventually strangle the tree. Wiring is a styling technique of bonsai and not part of the aesthetics of bonsai. Trees should therefore not be kept wired permanently, as the branches grow you must keep an eye on the wire as it might start cutting into the branch and may leave a permanent scar..

Topic for next meeting

For our next meeting we are going to discuss winterization of our bonsai trees. How to protect them and where is the best place to put them depending on what kind of trees you have. So if you are interested in learning how to protect your trees thus winter, please come to the meeting.