

Volcano Mulching Kills Trees:

Volcano mulching, an incorrect mulching technique, can kill your tree. Volcano mulching is where mulch is piled high against the trunk of a tree. Mulch should not touch the trunk of the tree. Volcanic mulching blocks the roots from getting sufficient oxygen and can lead to fungus, rot, decay and pests and ultimately lead to the tree's death.

Proper mulching is very beneficial to trees. Spread mulch 2 to 3 inches deep to the drip line of the tree if possible; do not let the mulch touch the trunk. The mulch should form a flat donut with the trunk in the center. Another guide is the "3x3x3 rule" or 3 inches of mulch, 3 inches from the trunk, in a circle 3 feet wide. Organic mulches (bark mulch, wood chips, leaves, etc) are preferred over stones or other inorganic matter.

For more information:

<https://arbordayblog.org/treecare/arborist-advice-mulching-101/>