Restoring landscape plants damaged by Hurricane Ike

**Q:** My mature oak tree was killed by the winds from Hurricane Ike. You can still see through it now. Will it survive the damage?

**A:** Many large trees lose a substantial number of leaves due to the winds. The high winds of strong hurricanes will strip the foliage from trees. Do not immediately cut down trees whose foliage has been stripped away by high winds. Despite their rugged appearance, most trees will recover. Provided there is little other damage (such as major limb breaks, broken bark, etc.) and the tree was in good health, it should last out again by next spring and be fine. However, if they do not produce new growth in the spring, they should be removed.

**Q:** I have repositioned many landscape trees that were leaning after Hurricane Ike? Should I stake these trees?

**A:** By and large, the damage from the high winds of strong hurricanes will strip the foliage from trees. Limited pruning may be necessary to establish a strong, healthy, robust framework. Despite their ragged appearance, the trees have made an effort to reposition small trees withstood a hurricane. Just as impressive is the sprouting of hibiscus flowers in San Leon. The hibiscus flower in the photo provides a classic situation. I was driving in San Leon and noticed a 5-foot tall hibiscus plant along the roadside. The leaves had been fried from the salty storm surge waters along the coast line. The hibiscus flower in the photo provided a classic situation. I was driving in San Leon and noticed a 5-foot tall hibiscus plant along the roadside. The leaves had been fried from the salty storm surge waters along the coast line. The leaves had been fried from the salty storm surge waters along the coast line. The leaves had been fried from the salty storm surge waters along the coast line.

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