



balanced  
earth

*Alpine  
Custom  
Blend*

# *Feeding Your Soil*



## *What makes Balanced Earth products so great?*

Organic life, mineral elements and energy are the three components that comprise our environment; together they support plant life, as well as the other elements of our physical world. Our commitment at Balanced Earth is to continually develop natural products to enhance and gently caretake our shared planet.

## *What is Alpine Custom Blend?*

Our soil amendment, **Alpine Custom Blend**, is an all-natural, actively aerated compost tea that contains a full set of microorganisms, as well as food for those organisms, to support and enhance the soil food web.





## *What is the soil food web?*

Under your feet there is a busy world of diverse organisms, from the tiniest single-celled bacteria, fungi, protozoa and algae, to more complex nematodes, to visible insects and earthworms. This complex community of organisms provides the nutrition for trees, grass, shrubs and agricultural crops. These busy workers accomplish wonders, including:

- 🌿 Decomposing organic compounds, converting them to plant available nutrients
- 🌿 Sequestering and fixing atmospheric nitrogen
- 🌿 Enhancing soil properties for better structure, water holding capacity and nutrient cycling
- 🌿 Disease suppression and degradation of pollutants
- 🌿 Production of enzymes and hormones that help plants grow and resist stress

## *What is food web complexity?*

Complexity is the number and different kind of species in a soil system. Functional groups of organisms work to transfer energy from one group to another before it leaves the soil. The more groups you have at work the more complex and supportive the system. Without this complexity your landscape is struggling to survive in dirt and not soil. More and more water and fertilizer are needed to maintain the plant.

## *What are the effects of herbicide, pesticide and synthetic fertilizer on the soil food web?*





Fertilizers are mostly salt. These salts eventually kill soil microbes. It is the same effect as you drinking salt water. In addition, too many nutrients from synthetic fertilizers creates lazy plants. They become dependent on this easy food source and fail to make relationships with beneficial symbiotic microbes. Pesticides and herbicides often kill the good with the bad further depleting the soil.





## *How do we restore and maintain a healthy soil food web?*

We created **Alpine Custom Blend** specifically to feed the soil that feeds the trees, most of which prefer a fungally dominated soil environment. Our tea undergoes a 72 hour production process, necessary to grow the fungi in sufficient quantities. Oxygen is supplied through aeration both to keep alive the good guys in aerobic conditions and to gently agitate and coax the microbes away from the host material. Our tea does not contain preservatives or chlorination. For optimal results from our **Alpine Custom Blend** tea:

-  Add organic matter to your soil in the form of quality compost
-  Eliminate or limit the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides or insecticides
-  Follow any chemical application with a treatment of **Alpine Custom Blend** to restore soil health
-  Disturb the soil as little as possible - be gentle and handle with care - these creatures are alive and can be destroyed with rough handling

Remember that there is a complex story unfolding beneath your feet and taking out any of the lead characters changes the outcome.



Throughout our history, Alpine Tree Service has been strongly committed to customer service, integrity, innovation, environmental stewardship, a positive and inspiring work environment and community involvement. Our expertise, methodology and ideals will continue to reflect an evolving level of knowledge as we journey into the future.



# **Alpine Tree Service, INC.**

**Your Full Service  
Tree Care Provider**

**Wood River Valley (208) 788-4441  
Treasure Valley (208) 362-4478**



Alpine Tree Service is committed to the philosophy that your landscape can be managed using ideas, principles and products that promote environmental stewardship. We proudly offer our own proprietary products from Balanced Earth.

[www.alpinetreeservice.net](http://www.alpinetreeservice.net)