



Snow on trees

We live in an old farmhouse
about 20 yards from the road.

We needed some trees
to protect us from the dust blowing off the road
and maybe to shield us from prying eyes of passersby.
Our Arborvitae now stand about 20-25 feet high
They are majestic

(and tasty to the deer whom we have to keep away with chicken wire)
and have served us well.

Once, when heavy wet snow fell,
my wife was inspired to say, as we drove down the road,
"If one had a big ego, one would think that the trees were bowing
down as we passed."
Indeed.

But it also meant that some branches might break off from the snow's weight,
breaking power lines and denuding some trees.
So, I took roof rake (all 20 feet or so of it)
and went out to slap and nudge and bang the branches
to relieve them of their burdens.
(If only I could do something like that to humans who are weighed down
with so much pain and suffering.....)

Robert Frost was a "swinger of birches."
I am a whacker of Arborvitae.

JOHN MORRIS
Topsham, VT



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