

Your GUIDE *to* PRUNING

Pruning promotes growths and is not always necessary but if you'd like to rejuvenate or shape your plants, here are the basics.

BROAD-LEAF EVERGREENS

Prune only after new growth to avoid cutting off buds.

SPRUCE AND PINES

Only prune dead or damaged branches to keep natural look. Create fuller look by cutting or pinching the new growth, known as the 'candle', in half late June or early July.

DECIDUOUS, FLOWERING & FRUIT TREES

Prune late winter to shape and remove dead or diseased branches. The exceptions are birches and maples. Prune after leaf drop, in the fall or in late winter dormancy to avoid increased sap flow.

FLOWERING SHRUBS

Early Spring Blooms: Prune after flowering to avoid removal of new buds.

Blooms After June: Prune late winter/early spring before leaf out.

Note: It's ok to give summer "light haircut" of spirea, potentilla, roses, and weigela for potential second round of blooms.

PERENNIALS & GRASSES

Keep foliage unpruned for winter interest, shelter for wildlife, and to help protect roots from extreme weather. Prune dead material in March or April down to soil level or within a couple inches.

HYDRANGEA

Panicle and Smooth Hydrangea: Prune late winter. Clip off dead blooms and any damaged branches.

Bigleaf or Climbing Hydrangea: Prune flower stems off after bloom in summer. Sooner the better. Or leave the blooms on for winter interest or just prune off the flowers to tidy up shrub. Do not prune old canes late winter because new buds have already been set.

Note on Bigleaf Macrophyllas (i.e. Summer Crush Hydrangea): Be sure to mulch when ground freezes and you can prune off dead branches after it starts showing how far up the branch it is alive.

Extra tip: Prune off dead and diseased branches any time. Do not compost or keep diseased material on the ground over winter

Contact us with
your pruning
questions!



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