

PRUNING GUIDE

These are general guidelines for the best time to prune. Please contact our garden center for more specific pruning information.

Deciduous

- Azalea (*Rhododendron*) – After flowering
- Barberry (*Berberis*) – Anytime
- Beautyberry (*Callicarpa*) – Late winter, early spring
- Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*) – Late winter, early spring | Renewal pruning early spring (March)
- Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia*) – Early spring to 6” if necessary
- Chokeberry (*Aronia*) – After flowering
- Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster*) – After flowering
- Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia*) – Late winter, early spring
- Dappled Willow (*Salix integra*) – Early winter | Renewal pruning in winter to early spring
- Deutzia (Deutzia) – After flowering
- Dogwood (*Cornus*) – Late winter
- Elderberry (*Sambucus*) – After flowering
- Exbury Azalea (*Rhododendron*) – After flowering
- Forsythia (*Forsythia*) – After flowering | Renewal pruning while dormant
- Fothergilla (*Fothergilla*) – After flowering
- Hydrangea, Bigleaf (*H. macrophylla & serrata*) – After flowering if necessary
- Hydrangea, Oakleaf (*H. quercifolia*) – After flowering if necessary
- Hydrangea, Panicle (*H. paniculata*) – Late winter, early spring
- Hydrangea, Smooth (*H. arborescens*) – Late winter, early spring
- Lilac (*Syringa*) – After flowering | Renewal pruning in winter to early spring
- Ninebark (*Physocarpus*) – Late winter, early spring
- Quince (*Chaenomeles*) – After flowering
- Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*) – Late winter, early spring
- Rose, shrub (*Rosa*) – Late winter, early spring | After initial flowering if necessary
- Spirea (*Spiraea*) – After flowering | Renewal pruning in winter to early spring
- St. John’s Wort (*Hypericum*) – Late winter, early spring
- Summersweet (*Clethra*) – Early spring
- Sweetspire (*Itea*) – After flowering
- Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) – After flowering no more than 1/3
- Weigela (*Weigela*) – After flowering | Renewal pruning in winter to early spring
- Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*) – Late winter, early spring

shrubs

Evergreen

Arborvitae (*Thuja*) – Late winter, early spring
Bayberry (*Myrica*) – Late winter, early spring
Boxwood (*Buxus*) – Winter through July
Bird's Nest Spruce (*Picea*) – Late winter, early spring if necessary
Euonymus (*Euonymus*) – Early spring
Globe Blue Spruce (*Picea*) – New growth in spring
Gold Thread Cypress (*Chamaecyparis*) – Spring
Heavenly Bamboo (*Nandina*) – Late winter, early spring
Holly, China & Blue (*Ilex x meserveae*) – Winter
Holly, Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) – Early summer
Holly, Sky Pencil (*Ilex crenata*) – winter
Juniper (*Juniperus*) – Early spring | After flush for formal
Laurel (*Prunus*) – After flowering
Lily of the Valley (*Pieris japonica*) – After flowering
Mugo Pine (*Pinus*) – Spring, new growth only
Pyracantha (*Pyracantha*) – Anytime | Renewal pruning in winter
Siberian Cypress (*Microbiota*) – Early spring
Viburnum (*Viburnum*) – After flowering
Yew (*Taxus*) – Late winter, early spring