A Guide to Successful Pruning Shrub Pruning Calendar

Susan C. French, Extension Technician Bonnie Lee Appleton, Extension Horticulturist

Comments:

- 1.) Flowers are produced on new (current season) wood
- 2.) Flowers are produced on wood from past season, pruning while dormant will reduce flowers
- 3.) Make pruning cuts well below diseased wood (fire blight) disinfect shears between cuts
- 4.) Remove old stems to ground yearly to renew
- 5.) Midseason shear if a formal hedge is desired
- 6.) Do not cut into old wood that has no leaves or needles
- 7.) Spring/summer prune to remove azalea caterpillars and galls
- 8.) Fall/early winter pruning can reduce winter hardiness
- 9.) Snap candles (new growth) in half when needles are 1/2 to 2/3 their normal mature length

¥	Best time to j	orune
		except to correct damage, structural defects
Where no	or	timing is not critical

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Comments
Abelia	¥	€									¥	€	1,4
Almond, Flowering					¥	¥	¥						2,4
Arborvitae	¥	¥	¥			¥	€				¥	€	6
Aucuba						¥	¥						2
Azalea, Deciduous					Ũ	¥	€						2
Azalea, Evergreen					¥	¥	€						2,7
Barberry, Deciduous					¥	¥	¥						2,4
Barberry, Evergreen					¥	¥	¥						2,4
Bayberry			¥	¥	¥	¥							
Beautyberry	¥	¥	¥								¥	€	1
Beautybush													
(Kolkwitzia)						¥	¥						2,4
Boxwood	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥				¥	¥	5
Broom (Cytisus)						¥	Ũ						2



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Produced by Communications and Marketing, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2009



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Comments
Butterfly-bush	Ĩ	€	€								Ĩ	¥	1
Camellia, Japanese				€	¥	¥							2
Camellia, Sasanqua			€	¥	¥								1
Chastetree (Vitex)	¥	€	€										1
Cherrylaurel (Prunus)	¥	¥	€	€	€	¥	€				¥	¥	5
Clethra, Summersweet	¥	¥	€								¥	¥	1
Cotoneaster, Deciduous	¥	€									¥	¥	3
Cotoneaster, Evergreen	¥	€									¥	¥	3
Crape Myrtle	¥	¥	€										1,8
Daphne, Fragrant or Winter				€	€	¥	€						2
Deutzia						¥	€						2,4
Dogwood, Redtwig	¥	€	€								¥	¥	1,4
Eleagnus, Thorny	¥	¥	€	¥	€	¥	€				¥	¥	
Euonymus, Deciduous	¥	¥	€								¥	¥	
Euonymus, Evergreen	¥	¥	€	¥	¥	¥	€				¥	¥	5
Forsythia				T	€	T	¥						2,4
Fothergilla					Ĩ	ũ	Ĩ						2
Gardenia	¥	T									¥	¥	1
Harry LauderÕs Walking Stick					T	T	¥						2
Hibiscus, Rose-of-Sharon, Althea	¥	¥	€								¥	¥	1
Holly, Deciduous	¥	¥										¥	1
Holly, Evergreen						T	¥						2,5
Honeysuckle					T	T	T						2,4,5
Hydrangea, Spring-blooming						¥	¥						2
Hydrangea, Summer-blooming	¥	¥	€										1
Hypericum, St. Johnswort	¥	T	¥										1
Indian Hawthorn (Raphiolepis)					¥	¥	¥						2
Jasmine, Winter				¥	¥	¥	¥						2
Juniper	¥	¥	¥								¥	¥	6
Kerria (Globeflower)						¥	¥						2,4
Leucothoe						¥	¥						4
Lilac						¥	¥						2,4
Mahonia, Oregon Grapeholly					¥	¥	¥						2,4
Mockorange						¥	¥						2,4

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Comments
Mountain-laurel (Kalmia)						€	€						2
Nandina	¥	¥	€										1,4
Osmanthus, Holly	¥	¥				€					¥	€	1,5
Pearlbush						€	€						2
Photinia	¥	¥			€	€	€				¥	€	5
Pieris					¥	€	€						2
Pine, Mugo	€			€	€	€						€	9
Pittosporum		¥	¥	¥	¥								
Privet, Deciduous (Ligustrum)	¥	¥	€	ũ	¥	*	¥				¥	¥	5
Privet, Evergreen (Ligustrum)	¥	¥	¥	¥	¥	€	¥				¥	€	5
Potentilla	€	¥	¥							¥	¥	€	1,4
Pyracantha						€	€						2,3
Quince				¥	€	€	€						2,4
Rhododendron						€	€						2
Rose		¥	€				€	€					1,3,4
Serviceberry				¥	€	¥							
Smoke Tree	¥	¥									€	€	1
Spirea, Springblooming					₹	¥							2
Spirea, Summerblooming	¥	¥											1
Sumac	¥	¥	€					€	¥	€	€	₹	1,4
Sweetshrub, Carolina Allspice							€	¥					1
Viburnum, Decid.					¥	T	¥						2,4
Viburnum, Evergr.					¥	T							2
Weigela					¥	¥	¥						2,4
Willow, Pussy				¥	¥	¥	¥						2
Witchhazel				¥	¥	¥	¥						2
Yew	€	¥	¥		¥	¥	¥				¥	¥	5

- Exceptions:
 1.) Timing varies across USDA climate zones zones within Virginia range from 8a in the Virginia Beach area to 5b along the West Virginia border 2.) Prune anytime to correct vandalism damage and hazards created by equipment or weather 3.) Hedges maintained formally (tight shapes) require more pruning than hedges maintained informally (in their natural form)