

SPRING

- Finish dormant season pruning, especially for oak, elm, locust, and fruit trees (end of March).
- Prune hybrid tea and modern roses before growth begins.
- Only prune out dead and damaged canes on old roses.
- Clean up and mulch perennial beds.
- The disease control season starts with apple scab and anthracnose sprays (May).
- Fertilize trees and shrubs to promote growth and health.
- Prune early flowering shrubs such as magnolia and forsythia after flowering.
- Plant new trees, shrubs, and perennials.

- Monitor trees and shrubs for insects and disease. Adjust watering as needed.
- Finish pruning early flowering shrubs such as lilacs and spring flowering spirea after flowering.
- Symptoms of Dutch elm disease and oak wilt start to become more noticeable. Fungicide injections can prevent both diseases.
- Finish pruning evergreen shrubs before it gets too hot (especially if shearing must be done).
- Prune hedges and formal shrubs to maintain shape.
- Prune flowering shrubs such as weigelia and mockorange after flowering.
- Tree pruning should be done only for trees with no disease issues.
- Remove diseased elm trees to minimize spread of Dutch elm disease.

SUMMER

SPRING

Tree & Shrub Care Calendar

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

FALL

- Fall fertilization begins in September.
- Fungicide injections to treat and prevent Dutch elm disease and oak wilt will continue until the trees start losing leaves.
- Many insect pests can be controlled for the following year by applying soil-injected insecticides in fall.
- Fall pruning for deciduous shrubs can be done except for shrubs where flowers will be removed.
- Now is a good time for removal of buckthorn and other unwanted trees.
- Plant new trees and shrubs. Make sure enough time is left for root establishment before winter.
- Divide overgrown perennials. Clean up and mulch perennial beds.

- The majority of maintenance in winter is pruning of oak, elm, locust, hawthorn, and fruit trees.
- Winter is a good time to do any removals that may involve heavy equipment to minimize the impact on landscapes.
- Order perennials to plant in spring so they will arrive at the proper time.
- Remove any excessive snow from shrubs like arborvitae that may be damaged by the extra weight.
- Get new ideas for the upcoming year by attending seminars or shows like the Home and Garden Show.
- Inspect trees for proper structure and weak branching patterns. Cabling can help support trees with poor structure.

WINTER

This timeline is general and subject to change due to specific site conditions and client expectations.

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