

PRUNING SMALL TREES FOR STRUCTURE

TOOLS YOU WILL NEED:

- POLE PRUNER
- HAND PRUNER
- LOPPERS
- HAND SAW

STEPS IN THE PRUNING PROCESS:

FIRST STEP:

- IDENTIFY THE PROBLEMS
 - DOES THE TREE HAVE A CENTRAL LEADER?
 - ARE THERE CO-DOMINANT BRANCHES?
 - ARE THERE LOW BRANCHES THAT SHOULD BE REMOVED?
 - ARE THERE DEAD BRANCHES?

SECOND STEP:

- DETERMINE PRUNING DOSE
 - ASSESS THE TREE'S HEALTH
 - NEVER PRUNE OVER ~25% OF THE LIVE CANOPY
 - PRUNING DOSE SHOULD MATCH THE TREE'S HEALTH

THIRD STEP:

- PRUNE!

TERMS TO REMEMBER:

BRANCH BARK COLLAR
BRANCH BARK RIDGE
CENTRAL LEADER
CO-DOMINANT BRANCHES
FIRST PERMEANT BRANCH

FLUSH CUT
INCLUDED BARK
SUBORDINATION
WOUND WOOD

REFERENCES:



HOW TO PRUNE TREES. US FOREST SERVICE, BULLETIN # NA-FR-01-95



TREE PRUNING ESSENTIALS: PURDUE UNIVERSITY, BULLETIN # FNR-506-W




URBAN FORESTRY
Louisville Parks and Recreation

SCAN HERE TO VIEW ONLINE: