Pruning Ornamental Trees and Shrubs

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Do you ever wonder when is the right time to prune your ornamental trees or shrubs? You are not alone!

I recently found a comprehensive 14-page guide from Purdue University's Cooperative Extension Service that will instruct you on the proper time based on the specific plant (see link below). The guide also covers when and how to prune evergreen trees and shrubs.

Proper pruning technique is also illustrated in this guide. So many times, on site visits to homeowners' yards, I see unsightly "stubs" on tree limbs that have been improperly pruned mid limb. This invites disease and pests into the wound and makes it difficult for the tree to heal itself. In other words, that stub is not doing anything good for the tree!

By taking a few minutes to properly prune a limb you most likely will be rewarded with more blooms and a longer tree lifespan.



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References:

https://ag.purdue.edu/department/hla/extension/extension-publications-library/ext-pubs/ho-4-w.html