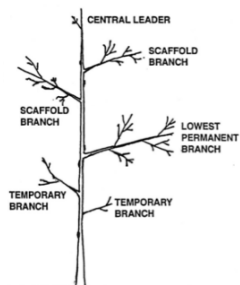


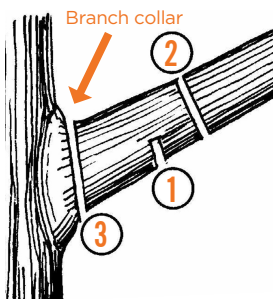


PRUNING YOUNG TREES

WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO PRUNE?



A central leader and scaffold branching promote proper tree structure.



A 3-step cut is used to prevent bark peeling. Cut number 3 should be made outside the branch collar.

PRUNE FOR A PURPOSE

Structure - leader selection, scaffold branch encouragement

Health - thinning, deadwood, creating better branch intersections

Clearance - raising lower branches for a pedestrian, vehicle, or building clearance

KNOW WHEN TO PRUNE

Pruning can occur year-round but is best performed in the winter months when deciduous trees are dormant. Fruit trees, flowering trees and oaks could need special attention/timing of year. If able, schedule large pruning or tree removal work while the ground is frozen to prevent soil compaction and damage to landscape.

KNOW HOW MUCH TO PRUNE

- Less than 1/3 of the crown/leaf area
- When removing a branch, cut back to the branch collar to ensure proper healing
- Newly planted trees should not be pruned for several years until established
- Dead or broken branches can be pruned anytime

WHEN TO CALL AN ARBORIST

If done improperly, pruning can cause significant damage to a tree. If you are not comfortable with the work or don't have the right tools for the job, it's time to call an arborist. Most tree care companies will provide a free quote. To find a local certified arborist visit: treesaregood.org/findanarborist



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