

# A Guide to Successful Pruning, Deciduous Tree Pruning Calendar

430-460

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## Deciduous Tree Pruning Calendar **Legend:**

\* = Best time to prune

x = Do not prune except to correct damage, hazards, or structural defects

- = Timing is not critical

## Note

1. Seldom needs pruning - remove multiple leaders, dead and broken branches
2. Avoid pruning in late winter/early spring due to sap flow (more cosmetic than detrimental)
3. Avoid pruning from spring through summer due to insect or disease problems
4. Avoid pruning from October - December due to reduced cold hardiness
5. Avoid pruning after July because flower buds have set

	Jn	Fb	Mr	Ap	Ma	Jn	Jl	Ag	Sp	Oc	Nv	Dc	Note
Ailanthus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Alder	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	
Ash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bald Cypress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Beech	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	-	
Birch	*	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	*	*	1,2

Buckeye	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Catalpa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cherry, Flowering	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Chestnut, Chinese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Crabapple	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Crape Myrtle	*	*	*	x	x	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	3
Dogwood	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Elm	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	*	*	*	1,2
Fringe Tree	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Ginko	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Golden- raintree	-	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	-	*	*	*	
Hackberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	-	-	-	2
Hawthorn	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Hickory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Honey- locust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	

Horse- chestnut	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Katsura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Linden	-	-	-	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	-	-	
Magnolia	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Maple	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	-	*	*	1,2
Mimosa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mountain Ash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mulberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nyssa, Black Gum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Oak	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	*	*	2
Peach, Flowering	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Pear, Flowering	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Plum, Flowering and Purple	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Poplar	-	x	x	x	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	1
Redbud	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	2,4

Serviceberry	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	x	x	x	x	x	4
Sophora	-	-	-	x	x	x	x	-	-	*	*	*	
Sourwood	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	*	*	*	
Stewartia	*	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	-	-	-	*	
Sweetgum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sycamore, Plane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tuliptree	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Willow	-	x	x	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Zelkova	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

**Exception:** Timing varies across USDA climate zones - zones within Virginia range from 8a in the Virginia Beach area to 5b along the West Virginia border.

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