

A scenic photograph of a forest stream. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding trees and sky. The banks are lined with tall, slender trees, some with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow and orange. The ground is covered with rocks and fallen leaves. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Winter Gardening

By Jon Pixler

Horticulturalist

Hyatt Lost Pines Resort and Spa

Winter Pruning

- Perianal
- Ornamental Grasses
- Shrubs and Trees



Pruning Perennials

- What kinds to prune?
 - Salvias, Turks cap, hibiscus, tropicals, etc.
- Cut back flat to the ground first
- Then trim around the sides
- How often?
 - Every year any time after first frost



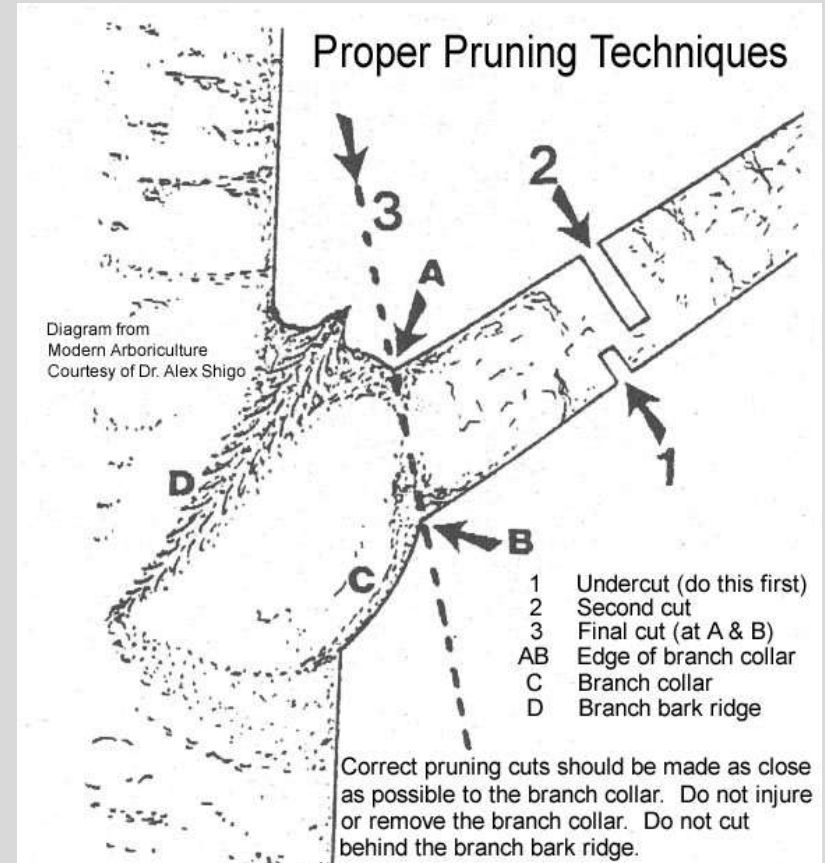
Pruning Ornamental Grasses

- What kinds?
 - Muhly, blue stem, silver grass, fountain grass, etc.
- Cut shoots back to no taller than 1 ft.
- Cut top flat and then round out sides
- Cut clumping grasses back every 1-3 years



Pruning Shrubs and Trees

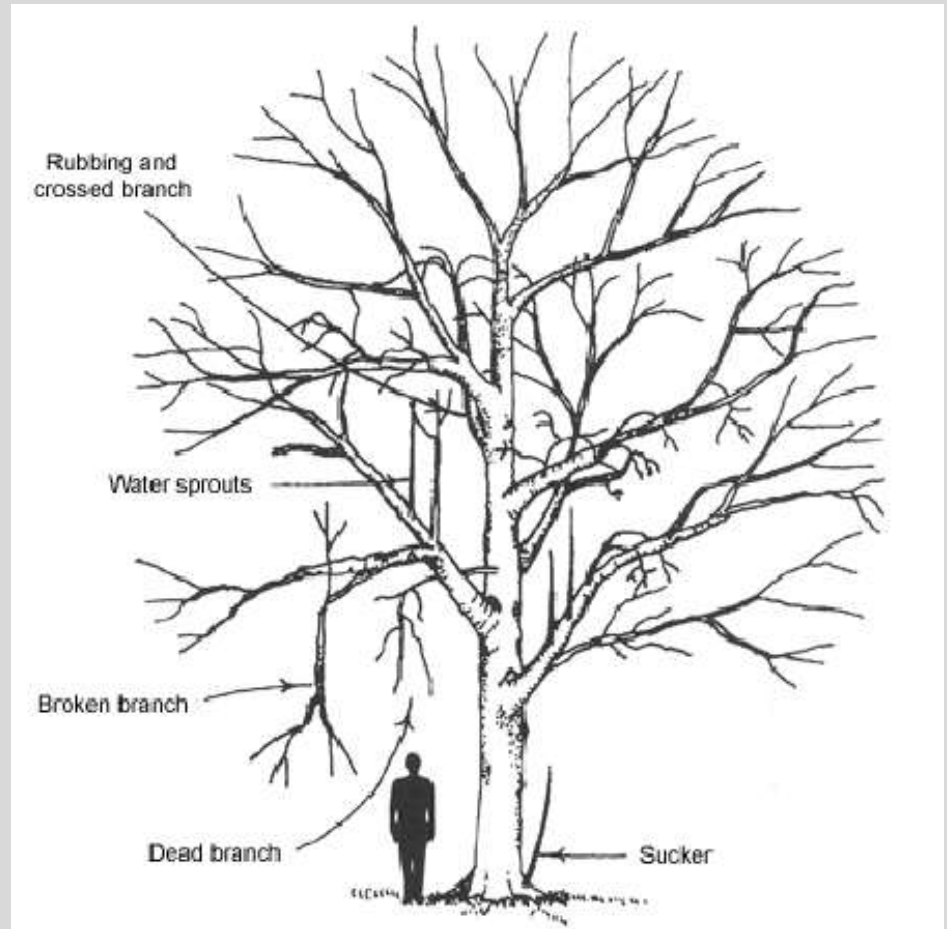
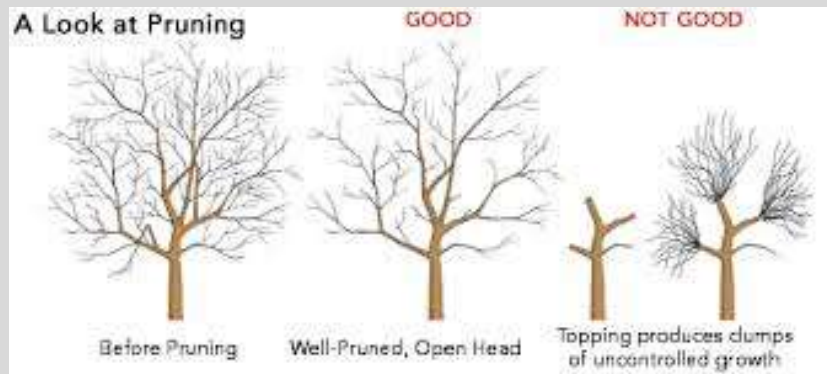
- Pruning Techniques
 - Branch Collar
 - Angles
 - Buds
- Step by step- remove
 - Deadwood
 - Inward pointing branches
 - Crossing branches
 - Weight reduction
 - Directional





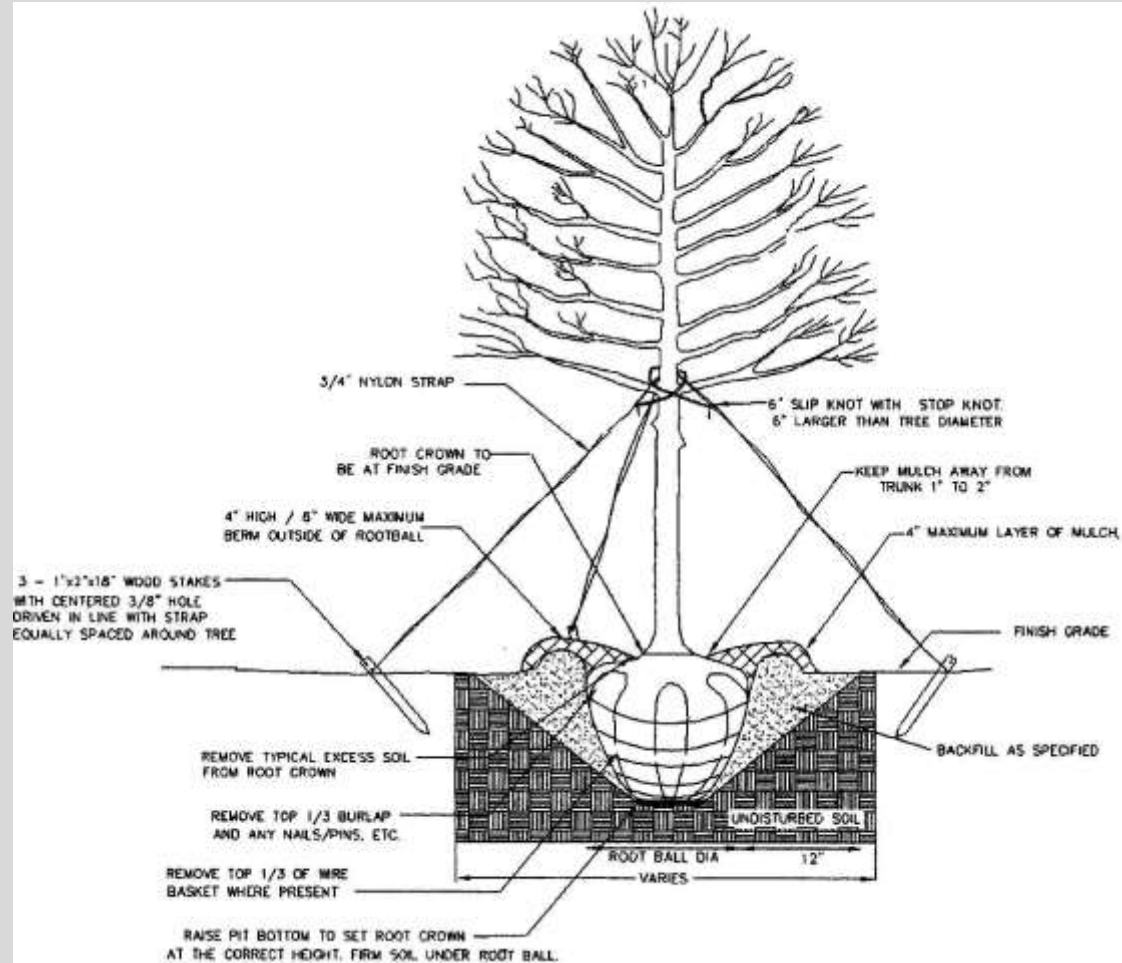
Central Texas
Gardener

- 25% rule



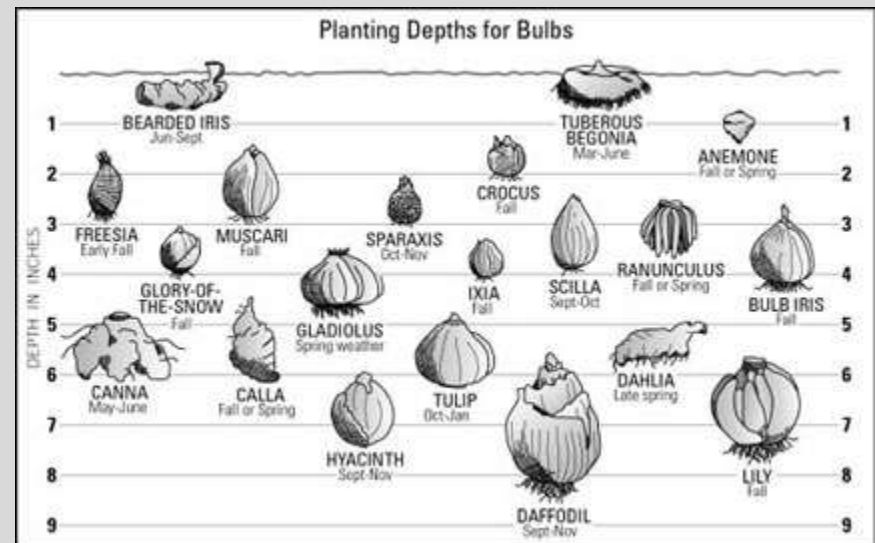
Winter Planting

- Trees and Shrubs
 - Square hole
 - Root ball should be 3 to 4 inches out of the ground
 - Mound Compost over the root ball
 - No stakes



Winter Planting

- Vegetable starts
 - Start 3-4 weeks before planting date
 - Give plenty of warmth and sunlight
- Bulbs
 - Plant bulbs as deep as bulb is tall



Planning For Warmer Weather

- Repair irrigation system for spring
- Design a garden bed
- Design vegetable garden lay out
- Order seeds for plants to start in spring
- Read a gardening book
- Make or turn compost pile





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