

TREE PRUNING CLASS

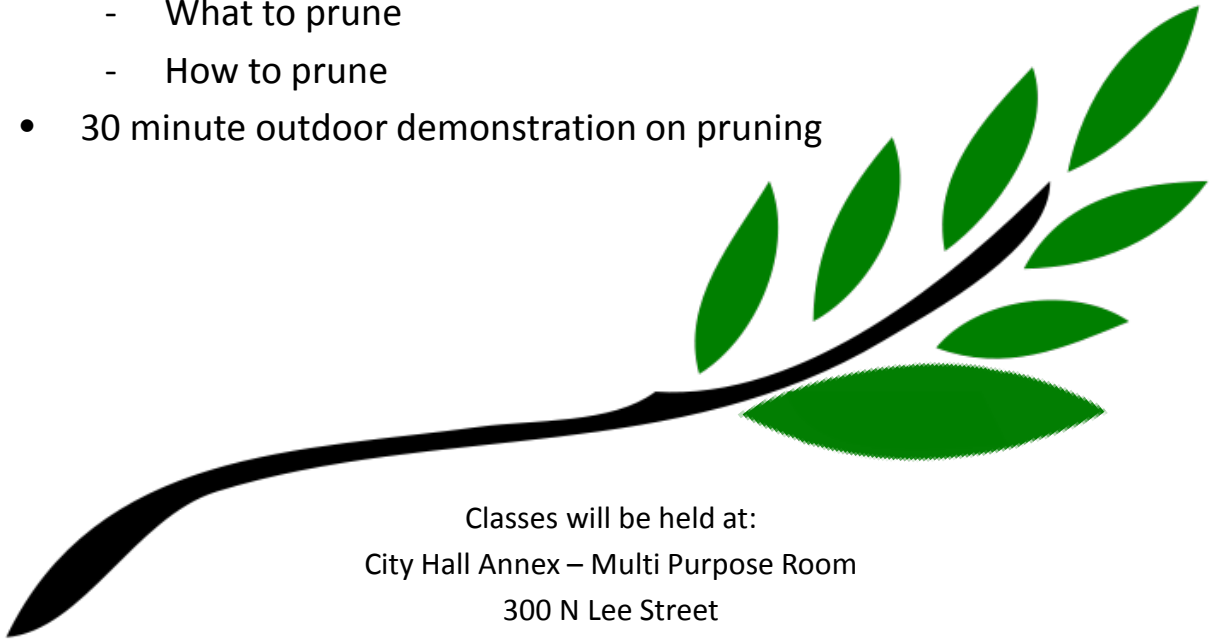
The City of Valdosta is proud to partner with the Lowndes County Extension Office to offer a free tree pruning class to tree and landscape companies.

The class will be offered on:

Thursday, February 25, 2016 | 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

The class will include:

- 30 minute classroom session on:
 - When to prune
 - What to prune
 - How to prune
- 30 minute outdoor demonstration on pruning



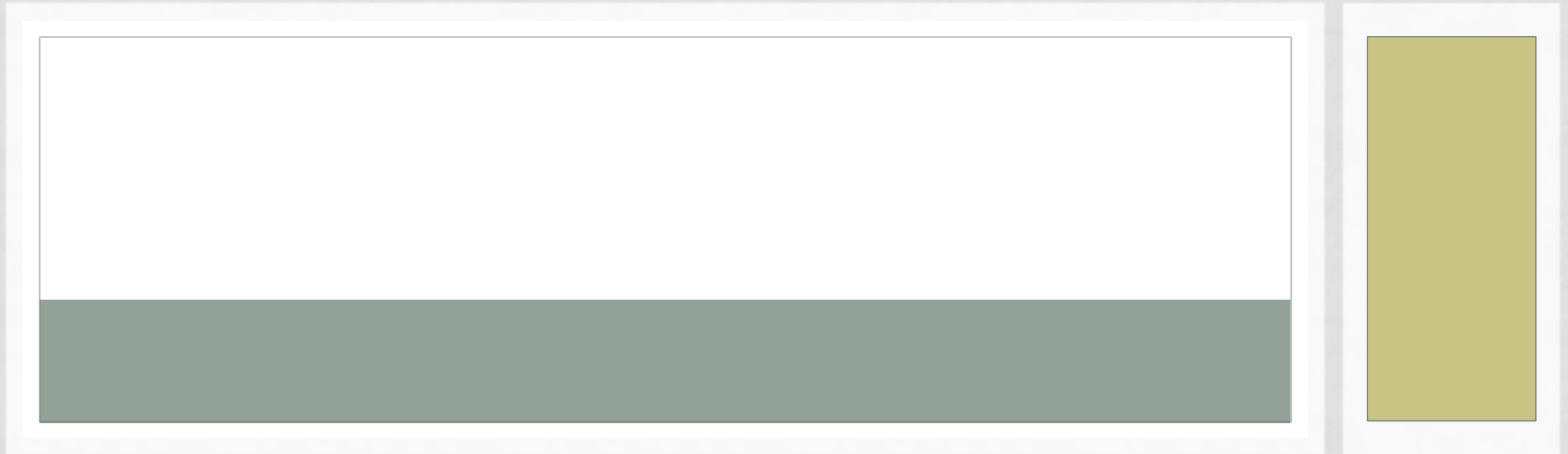
Classes will be held at:
City Hall Annex – Multi Purpose Room
300 N Lee Street
Valdosta, GA 31601

No Cost to Attend

**Space is limited, so register today by calling
Emily Davenport at 229-259-3530**

PRUNING TREES PROPERLY

BY: JAKE PRICE, LOWNDES COUNTY EXTENSION
2/25/2016



WHY PRUNE?

- Maintain desired shape
- Promote flowering or fruit
- Reduce overgrown vegetation
- Remove damaged limbs
- Safety reasons

WHAT TO PRUNE

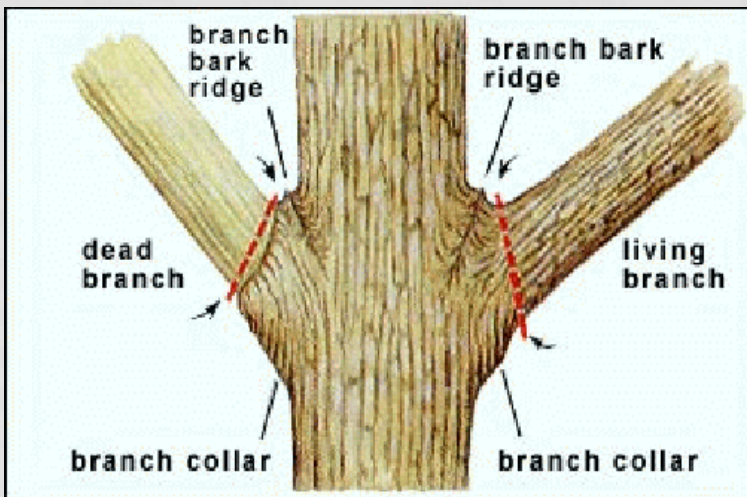
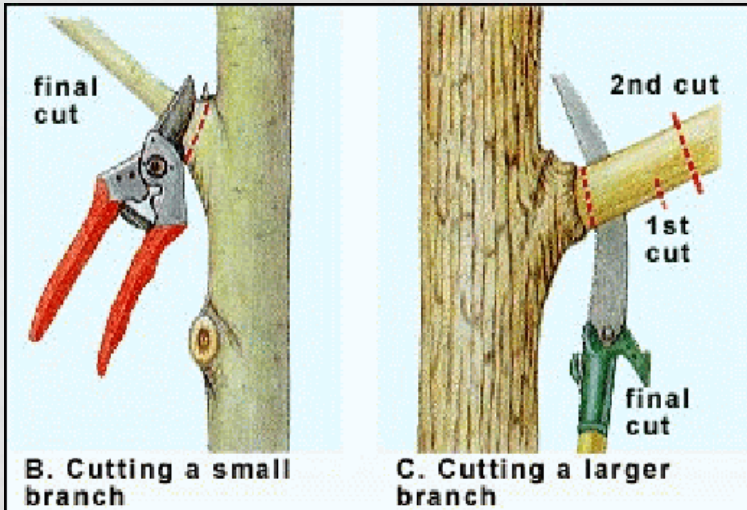
- Diseased or dying branches/fronds
- Crossing or rubbing branches
- Branches with tight angles
- Seed inflorescence (palms)
- Prune trees when young to help structure

GENERAL RULES FOR FLOWERING PLANTS

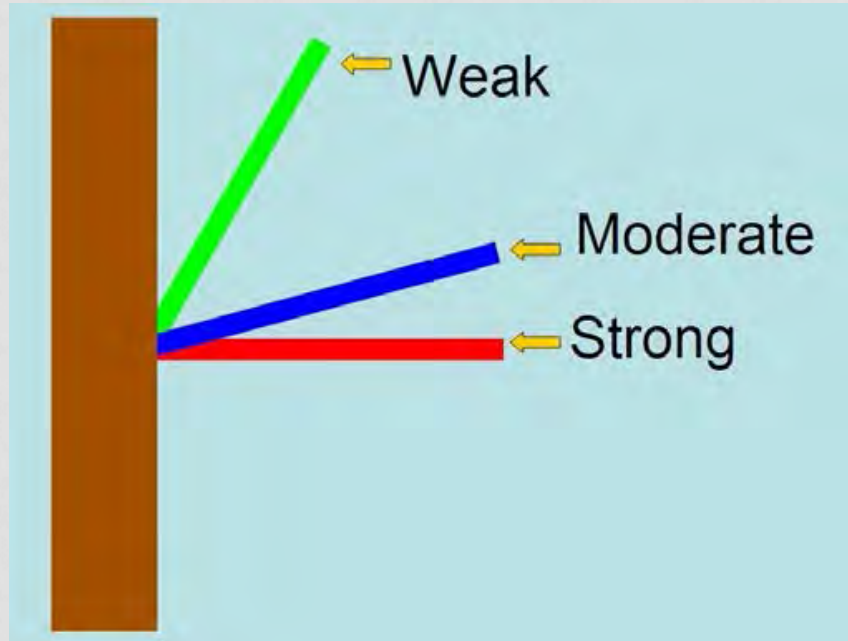
- Plants that flower before May (spring flowering) should be pruned after flowering. They form buds in the fall.
 - Dogwood, Redbud, Flowering Cherry, Crabapple, Hydrangea, Saucer Magnolia, Azalea
- Plants that flower after May (summer flowering) should be pruned late winter. These flower on new growth
 - Crape myrtle, Golden Raintree, Chaste tree



TREE PRUNING



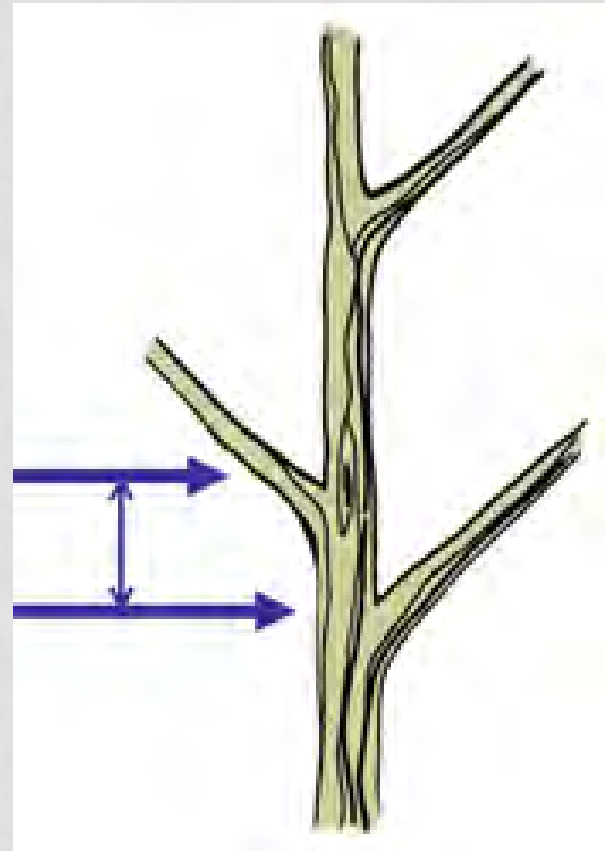
STRONG VS. WEAK CONNECTION



TRAINING YOUNG SHADE TREES

Minimum Spacing for Scaffold Branches

Mature Tree Height	Minimum Scaffold Branch Spacing
20 feet	1 foot
30 feet	1.5 feet
40 feet	2 feet
50 feet	2.5 feet
60 feet	3 feet
70 feet	3.5 feet
80 feet	4 feet



PRUNING DON'T'S

- Do not prune more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of canopy
- Do not top a tree
- Do not prune when tree is flushing in spring
- Do not make flush cuts
- Do not prune in fall
- Do not apply wound paints



WHY IS TOPPING BAD?

- Tree can starve. Foliage makes food
- Insects enter
- Forms weak sprouts
- Ugly
- Shocks tree and exposes bark to full sun
- Wounds do not seal, tree decays



INSECT PROBLEMS FROM TOPPING

New growth attracts aphids



Ambrosia beetles enter tree



AVOID FLUSH CUTS

- Avoid flush cuts
- Cut outside the branch collar
- Wound paint is not necessary



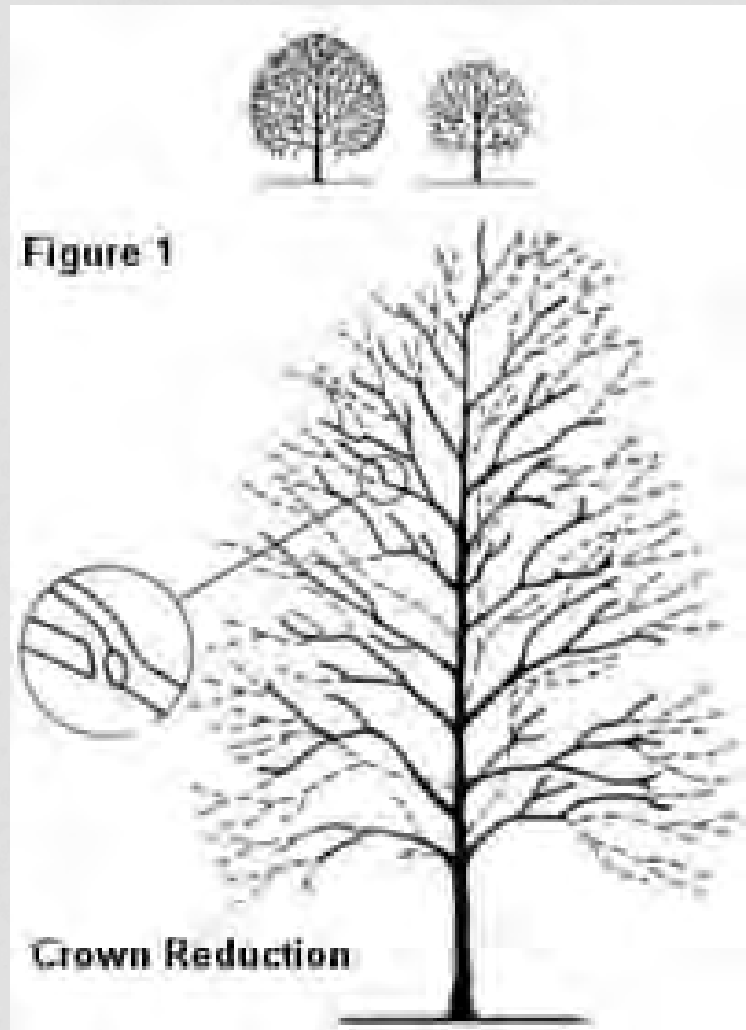
Wound sealing properly



Flush cut struggling to seal

CROWN REDUCTION

- Way to reduce height without topping
- Cut back to a secondary branch 1/3rd diameter
- Sometimes tree removal is best option if improperly located



POOR TREE PLACEMENT

- Plant tree in proper location
- Cannot overcome poor planning
- Sometimes best to cut and start over





Topped



Pollarded



Pencil-pruned



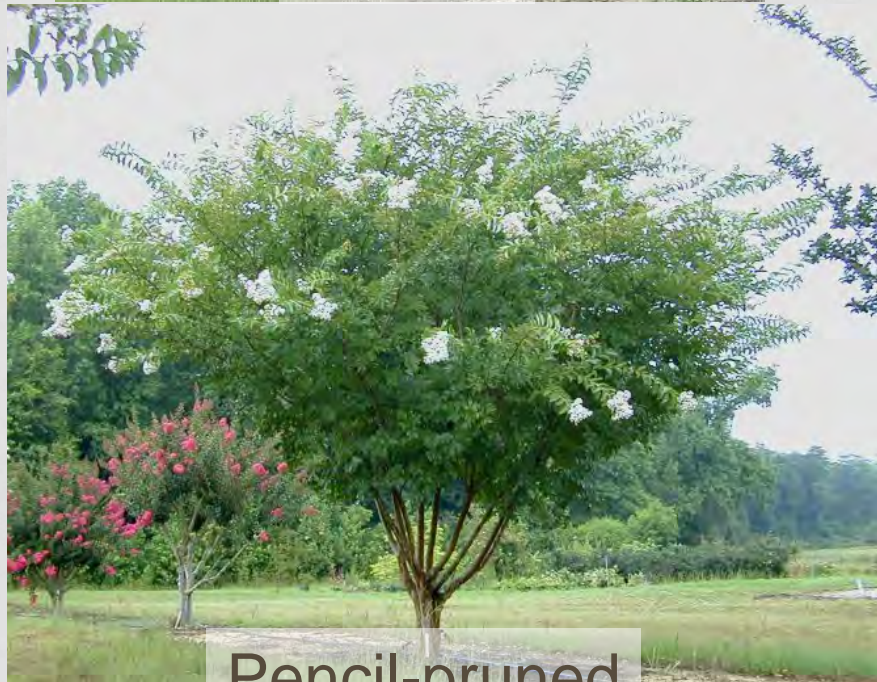
Unpruned



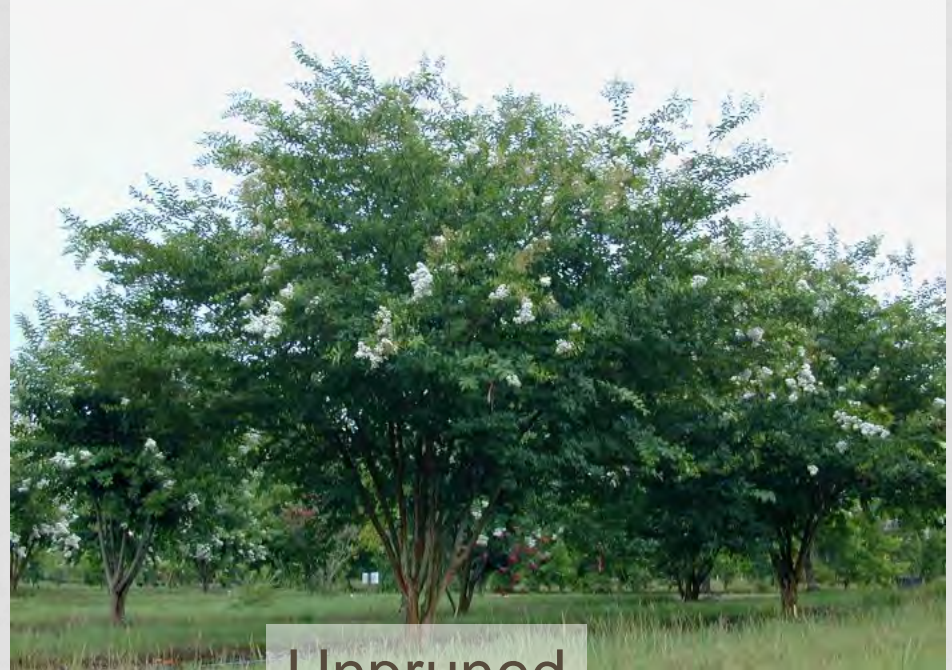
Topped



Pollarded



Pencil-pruned



Unpruned

CRAPE MYRTLE GENERALIZATIONS

- Natchez: Hard pruning reduces number of flowers and slightly increases flower size
- Carolina Beauty: Pruning had no clear effect on number of flowers;
topping reduced flower size
- Topping and Pollarding stimulate more sprouts;
I.e., the harder you prune, the more you stimulate sprouting

PRUNING NEEDLE EVERGREENS

- Require little pruning
- May be limbed up if desired
- Have natural symmetrical shape
- Trim candles in spring to thicken tree if desired



PRUNING PALMS



- * Require little pruning
- * Remove only brown fronds below 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock on the canopy
- * Do not remove green fronds
- * Cut fronds close to trunk
- * Remove flower and seed clusters if they are unattractive



Over-pruned Date Palm

PRUNING PALMS

- Some palms are limbed up to show off their attractive trunks.
- Severe pruning can constrict diameter. (right)



CITRUS

- Rarely need pruning
- Limb up from bottom if fruit touch ground
- Remove suckers from rootstock





VALDOSTA CITY HALL ANNEX



TREE PRUNING CLASS

FEBRUARY 25, 2016

QUESTIONNAIRE

Of the 33 attendees, 24 completed the questionnaire and below are the results and comments.

How would you rate the following:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
The location of the class			8	16
The timeframe of the class		2	7	14
The handouts (e.g. appropriate, useful)			7	17
How effectively did the speaker communicate?			7	17
How would you rate the speaker's understanding of the topic?			5	19
Did the presentation meet your expectations?			7	17
Was the outdoor portion of the class helpful?			3	12
Additional comments: (1) Could not stay for the outdoor portion, but would have enjoyed it. Very interesting. (2) Please offer more classes! (3) Great class. Learned a few things I didn't know. (4) Good tips I didn't know. (5) Excellent presentation! Thanks for helping us out!				

Check all that you may be interested in for future classes:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards / Tree Risk Assessment (11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Any topic (1)</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herbicide Management (13) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Climbing techniques (1)</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Management (12) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Species selection (1)</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planting and Transplanting (11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Spanish moss control (1)</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Right Tree Right Place (10) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Root Management (13) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

THANK YOU!