



BALSAM FIR



BUR OAK



SPECKLED ALDER



TAMARACK

## Tree Pruning Tips

### WHY PRUNE?

- To improve tree structure and health
- For human safety and hazard mitigation
- To increase light penetration and improve the aesthetics

### BASIC PRUNING PRINCIPLES

- Proper pruning cuts are made where one branch or twig attaches to another.
- Remove branches that rub or cross another branch.
- Do not remove more than one quarter of the living crown of a tree at one time.

\* *Note:* the Town's Tree Preservation By-law does not allow pruning more than one quarter of a tree's living crown without a permit.

### WHEN TO PRUNE

Pruning dead, weakened or small tree branches can be done at any time of the year.

Larger branches should be done in the late fall or early winter after the leaves have fallen.

Coniferous trees can be pruned any time, though pruning in the dormant season (fall and winter) can reduce 'bleeding' (sap flow from the wounds).

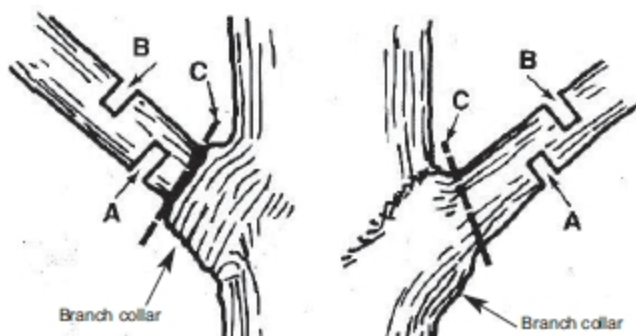
### HOW TO PRUNE

Most backyard pruning involves the removal of small branches that can be removed with clippers.

If you need to remove a larger branch with a saw, you'll want to use the 'three-cut method':

1. Make the first cut 30 cm from the trunk of the tree. Cut up from the bottom of the limb about one third of the way through the limb.
2. Cut from the top a few centimetres further from the trunk and remove the branch.
3. The final cut removes the branch stub near the trunk and should leave a small stump at the branch collar in order to prevent disease from entering the pruning wound.

Coniferous trees usually require far less pruning than deciduous trees, but conifers do not regrow branches. Make sure to only prune the tips of branches in order to prevent permanent disfigurement.



CHOCKECHERRY



SILVER MAPLE



TREMBLING ASPEN



WHITE BIRCH



### Why plant native species?

- Native species adapt to local water and soil conditions and therefore require less water and maintenance.
- They provide habitat and food for birds, mammals and various insects.
- Native species improve local biodiversity.

For more information, please contact:

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# Native Trees

## Selection Guide



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