

# Pruning Deciduous Shrubs

The Morton Arboretum

Common Name	Scientific Name	Method & When To Prune
Almond, flowering	<i>Prunus glandulosa</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Allspice, Carolina	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	prune after flowering; flowers mostly on old wood, but can also flower on new wood
Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa</i> species	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Beautybush	<i>Kolkwitzia amabilis</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Bluebeard, Blue spirea	<i>Caryopteris</i> x <i>clandonensis</i>	rejuvenate annually in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Buckeye, bottlebrush	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Butterfly bush	<i>Buddleia</i> species	rejuvenate annually in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Cherry, purple sand	<i>Prunus</i> x <i>cistena</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Chokeberry	<i>Aronia</i> species	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Cinquefoil	<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> (syn. <i>Potentilla</i> )	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Clethra, summersweet	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster</i> species	Prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Diervilla (bush-honeysuckle)	<i>Diervilla</i> species	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Deutzia	<i>Deutzia gracilis</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Dogwood, gray	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Prune in winter for renewal pruning to stimulate new stems; flowers on old wood
Dogwood, red-osier	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	prune in winter for renewal pruning to stimulate new stems; flowers on old wood
Forsythia	<i>Forsythia</i> species and hybrids	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla</i> species/hybrids	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Hydrangea, bigleaf	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>	Limit pruning to spring removal of all dead stems; species and older cultivars flower on old wood while newer cultivars flower on old wood and new wood

Hydrangea, oakleaf	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood; minimal pruning required
Hydrangea, panicle	<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Hydrangea, wild	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Lilac	<i>Syringa</i> species	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Mockorange, sweet	<i>Philadelphus</i> species	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Privet	<i>Ligustrum</i> species	prune after flowering if flowers are desired; flowers on old wood (considered potentially invasive, planting is discouraged)
Quince, flowering	<i>Chaenomeles</i> species	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Rhododendron, azalea	<i>Rhododendron</i> species	little pruning is needed; renewal prune when dormant
Rose-of-Sharon	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos</i> species	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Spirea, spring flowering	<i>Spiraea prunifolia</i> , <i>S. vanhouttei</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Spirea, summer flowering	<i>Spiraea x bumalda</i> <i>Spiraea japonica</i>	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers in summer on new wood
St, Johns wort	<i>Hypericum</i> species	prune in late winter/early spring; flowers on new wood
Sweetspire, Virginia	<i>Itea virginica</i>	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum</i> species	prune after flowering; flowers on old wood
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Prune after flowering, minimal pruning to preserve fruit; flowers on old wood
Weigela	<i>Weigela</i> hybrids	prune after flowering; flowers on old and new wood (limited flowering on new wood)
Witch hazel, Common	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Limited need for pruning; prune after flowering
Witch hazel, Vernal	<i>Hamamelis vernalis</i>	Limited need for pruning; prune after flowering