

EXPERT'S TIP: IT'S TIME TO PRUNE YOUR TREES

If cabin fever has set in, take advantage of a nice sunny day and get outside to get your pruning chores completed! The majority of our deciduous trees and shrubs are best pruned now through mid-April (Valentine's Day through Tax Day, as I've come to think of it). First off, you can see what you're doing; there are no leaves to block your view of cuts to be made. Secondly, physiologically, it's less stressful on the tree to prune when it's dormant (less stress on you, too, to do it when it's cooler rather than warmer).

Be sure to have sharp blades on your saws and loppers. Remember to disinfect often with diluted bleach solution or alcohol spray to prevent the spread of diseases. Heavy leather gloves and safety glasses should be worn as personal protection, too.

Below are links to some useful materials to give you a refresher on the pruning process. The video is extremely helpful for those of you tackling pruning young trees to ensure proper form and structure as they get older.

[3-Point Cut](#)

[Pruning Trees](#)