

# PROPER SHRUB PRUNING

## The Growing Season

During the summer growing season, shrubs are lush, healthy and blooming. When cool fall and winter temperatures set in, our desert shrubs slow their growth dramatically. During roughly November through April, the shrubs on our properties are seasonally pruned to reduce their size before the next year's growing season. Some landscape management providers choose to shear shrubs into shapes such as: cones, balls, flat tops and beer kegs, throughout the growing season. The advantage to the landscape provider is that employees need little training, knowledge or supervision to simply shear every plant on the property each time they are in an area. This practice is detrimental to the health of the plant as the plant requires more water to recover the lost foliage.



Seasonal pruning stimulates natural growth and produces more blooms

Seasonal pruning is needed. This type of pruning permits plants to grow back into their space during the following growing season. Shrub renovation allows residents to enjoy the seasonal color of common area plants because they are not being trimmed during their flowering season. Shrubs that encroach on streets or sidewalks, or obstruct lines of sight at intersections and near road signs, are pruned as necessary to ensure safety.

## Proper Pruning

DLC Resources, Inc.'s approach is different. Our Seasonal Shrub Renovation Program consists of trimming shrubs back to roughly half their size. On some species, like the Red Bird of Paradise, even more

## Sage



This healthy Sage reached its peak size at the end of the growing season.

## After Seasonal Prune



Shrub renovation cuts plants, like this Sage, back to roughly half their peak size.

## Natural Growth



This Sage was renovated in the fall. It is growing naturally in its allotted space.



Constant shearing and manicuring with hand shears on flowering plants throughout the growing season results in declining health and fewer blooms.



SHRUB PRUNING SCHEDULE

Summer Flowering Plants		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Bursage		↑										↓	
Creosote		↑										↓	
Devil's River		↑										↓	
Emubush		↑										↓	
Fairy Duster		↑										↓	
Hop Bush		↑										↓	
Jojoba		↑										↓	
Myrtle		↑										↓	
Oleander		↑										↓	
Ruellia brittoniana		↑										↓	
Ruellia peninsularis		↑										↓	
Sages		↑										↓	
<b>Winter/Spring Flowering Plants</b> (Should be pruned after they flower, but before daytime temps reach 100°. Prune to the extent of the following season's growth. **May need to be trimmed more than once a year.													
Cassia**						↔	↔						
Globe mallow						↔	↔						
Natal Plum						↔	↔						
Salvia greggii						↔	↔						
Valentine						↔	↔						
<b>Renovate</b> (Prune to base of plant in the cooler months.)													
Acacia berlandieri													↓
Bougainvillea													↓
Brittle bush													↓
Cape honeysuckle													↓
Chuparosa													↓
Cordia													↓
Dalea frutescens													↓
Dalea greggii													↓
Lantana													↓
Orange Jubilee													↓
Red bird of paradise													↓
Yellow Bells													↓
Yellow dot													↓
Paperflower													↓
Verbena													↓
<b>Selectively Prune</b> (At the base to remove interfering stems; can be performed throughout the year as necessary.)													
Desert spoon													↓
Desert milkweed													↓
Ocotillo													↓
Red/Yellow yucca*													↓
<b>Selectively Prune Flower Stalks</b> (At the base to remove unsightly seed stalks.)													
Plant Species	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	December
Angelita daisy													↓
Chapparal sage													↓
Penstemon													↓
Red/Yellow yucca*													↓
<b>Shear as Required</b> (May require warmer month shearing to maintain shape and prevent interference)													
Bougainvillea													↓
Acacia redolens													↓
Dalea greggii													↓
Myoporum													↓
Trailing desert broom													↓
Trailing rosemary													↓
<b>Let it Be</b> (Prune/shear: If/when the plant causes interfering problems, or becomes unsightly - cut to ground level)													
Deer grass													↓
Fountain grass													↓
Regal mist													↓

