

Site Selection

When deciding where to plant a tree, consider the following:

- *mature size of the tree--clearance for structures, power lines, driveways, walkways, fences, other trees
 - *soil type--tree should be compatible with soil type--soil can be tested with Texas A&M
 - *water availability, drainage
 - *light requirements of the tree
 - *weather--be aware of your hardiness zone
 - *purpose of the area--privacy, windbreak, recreation, shade
- Ellis, Jason, "Site Evaluation", Texas Forest Service.

Some Recommended Denton County Trees

Live oak, Bur oak, Shumard Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Bald Cypress, Cedar Elm, Lacebark Elm, Chinese Pistache, Winged Elm, Eastern Redbud, Texas Redbud, Eve's Necklace, Mexican Plum, Possumhaw Holly, Yaupon Holly.

For a complete tree list see "Thirty-Three Trees Recommended For Planting in Denton County", Cooper, John, Texas A&M Extension Horticulturist Emeritus.

The Denton County Master Gardener Association is a volunteer program under the guidance of the Texas AgrILIFE Extension.

As Master Gardeners our mission is to educate Denton County residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that promote development of healthy gardens, landscapes and communities.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Have a gardening question?

Call our help desk at

940-349-2892

or email your questions to

master.gardener

@dentoncounty.com

Visit our website at

dcmga.com

TEXAS A&M
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Quick Reference Guide to Trees

in Denton County



Denton County
Master Gardener Association
dcmga.com



Planting

Choose tree with strong branches and a straight main branch. Avoid trees with any damage. Trees in small pots tend to transplant better due to a better branch-root ratio. This gives the roots a head start since there is less tree above ground to support.

Dig a hole that is about 2-3 times the width of the root ball and only as deep as the root ball. Be careful not to plant the tree too deep. The root flare at the base of the trunk should be above ground. Loosen roots, remove burlap, wire or any materials around root ball, then fill hole with same soil that was dug to make the hole.

Water slowly. Mulch should be pulled 3-6 inches away from trunk so that it doesn't touch the bark. Trees prefer a natural forest floor beneath them where they don't compete with grass and other plants for water and nutrients. Stake only if needed. Fertilizer or root stimulator is not necessary.

Protect tree from machinery or any damaging disturbances. Keep tree well watered during the first couple of years. Be careful not to overwater.

Texas Forest Service, "Tree Planting Guide".
Cooper, John, Texas A&M Extension Horticulturalist Emeritus, "Tree Planting and Care".

Pruning

Prune only when necessary for the tree health.

Never prune more than one quarter of leaf area.

Avoid pruning during drought.

Use disinfected tools.

Prune non-flowering hardwood trees in late winter.

Prune flowering trees after bloom.

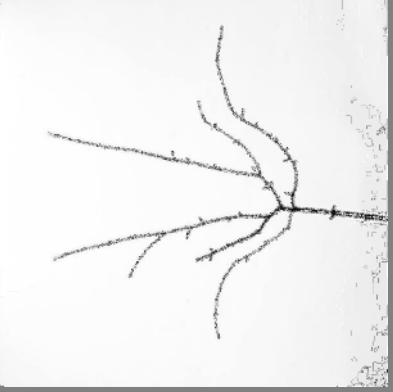
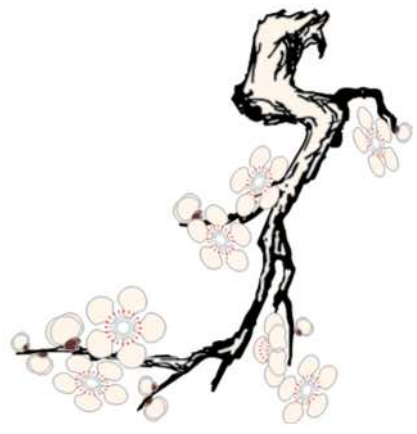
The worst time to prune is when new leaves are forming.

Dead material can be pruned at anytime.

Take care not to prune too close or into the trunk.

Prune gradually--taking off small sections first before working to a large section of a branch.

For detailed pruning information refer to the following site: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/publications/landscape/pruning/pruning.html>



For more information:

- ◆ **Denton County Master Gardener Association -** dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/trees/
- ◆ **Texas Forest Service -** texasforestplanting.tamu.edu
- ◆ **Soil Testing -** soiltesting.tamu.edu
- ◆ **Texas A & M Insects -** insects.tamu.com
- ◆ **Aggie Horticulture -** aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu
- ◆ **Certified Arborists -** isa-arbor.org