Douglas County Tree Service Publishes New Guide on Tree Trimming Timing

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Douglas County Tree Service has published a new educational guide, ?When to Trim Trees in Georgia: A Seasonal Guide,? outlining the best times of year to trim common tree species in Georgia. Released in May, the resource covers seasonal pruning schedules, tree health considerations, and species-specific timing recommendations for homeowners across the state.

The guide explains how pruning at the wrong time can increase stress on trees, create conditions that encourage disease, and reduce the benefits of routine maintenance. It also provides recommendations for several tree species commonly found in Georgia landscapes, including oak, pine, crepe myrtle, maple, fruit, dogwood, and magnolia trees.

According to the guide, most trees benefit from pruning during dormancy, which generally occurs between late November and late February in Georgia. During this period, insect activity and disease pressure are lower, and branch structure is easier to inspect because many trees have shed their leaves.

?Many property owners assume tree trimming can be done at any time of year, but timing can affect both tree health and long-term growth,? said Alex Laldin, marketing director for Douglas County Tree Service. ?The goal of the guide is to provide homeowners with practical information they can use when planning maintenance and determining when professional tree care may be needed.?

The guide highlights several species-specific considerations. Oak trees, for example, are best pruned during the winter months to help reduce the risk of oak wilt, a disease that can spread through fresh pruning wounds when beetle activity increases during warmer seasons. The guide advises avoiding major oak pruning from spring through midsummer.

For crepe myrtles, the guide discusses the common practice known as ?crepe murder,? which involves cutting trees back to large stubs. According to the company, this method can lead to weak regrowth and alter the tree?s natural shape. Instead, the guide recommends selective pruning to remove crossing branches, root suckers, and other growth that may affect airflow or structural development.

The publication also addresses pruning schedules for maple trees and fruit trees. Maples may experience heavy sap flow when pruned at certain times of the year, while fruit trees generally benefit from annual pruning during dormancy before spring growth begins.

In addition to seasonal recommendations, the guide notes that some tree care situations require immediate attention regardless of the time of year. Dead, damaged, or hazardous branches may need to be removed promptly to reduce safety risks and help prevent additional damage during storms or periods of high wind.

Georgia homeowners often face unique tree maintenance challenges because of the state's long growing season and diverse mix of hardwood, evergreen, and ornamental species. The guide was developed to help property owners better understand how seasonal conditions can affect pruning results and tree recovery.

The publication also addresses weather-related concerns. Pruning during wet conditions is generally discouraged because excess moisture can increase the likelihood of disease and place additional stress on trees recovering from fresh cuts. The guide recommends scheduling routine maintenance during favorable weather whenever possible.

Along with species-specific recommendations, the resource includes information about pruning frequency. Mature shade trees may require maintenance only every few years, while younger trees often benefit from more frequent structural pruning. Certain ornamental and fruit-producing trees may also benefit from annual attention depending on their growth habits and maintenance needs.

The release of the guide comes as many property owners begin planning seasonal landscape maintenance projects. Tree care professionals frequently receive questions about whether pruning should take place in spring, summer, fall, or winter, particularly after severe weather events or periods of rapid growth.

Douglas County Tree Service said the guide is intended to serve as a reference for homeowners seeking general information about tree trimming schedules and tree care timing. The company noted that individual trees may require different approaches based on species, age, condition, and location.

Douglas County Tree Service provides tree removal, tree trimming, stump grinding, lot clearing, and related tree care services in Georgia. The company also publishes educational resources through its website and blog to help property owners better understand tree health, maintenance, and management practices.

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Douglas County Tree Service

Douglas County Tree Service offers expert tree removal, trimming, pruning, and storm cleanup. We provide safe, reliable, and affordable tree care to protect your property, enhance curb appeal, and keep your trees healthy year-round.

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