

Pruning Shade Trees

What to cut, how and
where to prune your trees

Pruning cuts

Thinning-removing a side branch at its origin

Best cut for most tree pruning

Invigorates remaining branches



Pruning cuts

Heading-shortening a branch

OK for small branches

Hard for the tree to close quickly if the cut is large



Removing larger branches without damage to the tree

1-2-3 cut keeps heavier branches from tearing bark as they break



Undercut the
branch about
 $1/3$ through



Cut beyond
the undercut



Final cut
removes the
stub

Pruning cuts-BAD!



Hacking-shortening a branch

Not good, hard for tree to close the wounds

What, where, how do I cut?



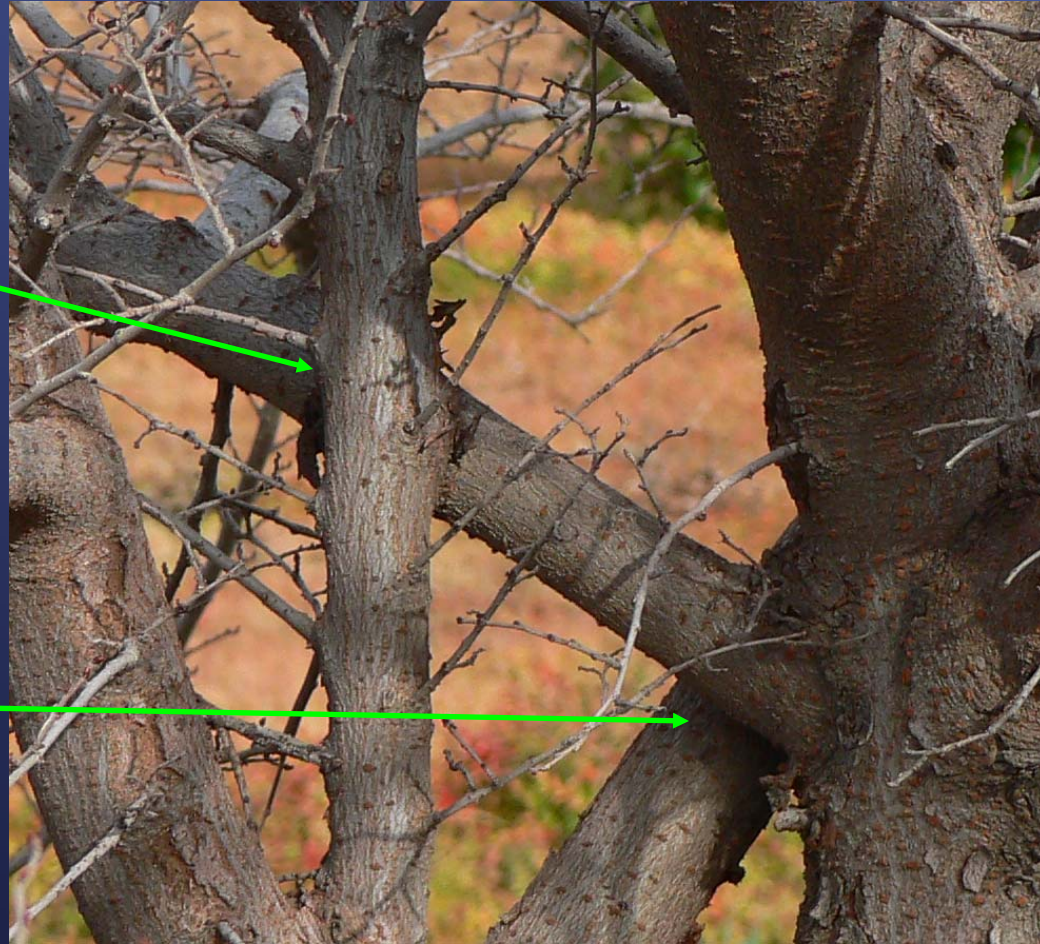
Dead, decayed, damaged, diseased



Co-dominant, weak attachments



Crossing & rubbing



Suckers and water-sprouts



Establish permanent branches



Remove/reduce temporary branches



Improve shape



What would you prune on this tree?

1. Dead, decayed, damaged, diseased
2. Co-dominant, weak attachments
3. Crossing & rubbing
4. Suckers and water-sprouts
5. Permanent branches
6. Remove/reduce temporary branches
7. Improve shape



What would you prune on this tree?

now — next year — later —

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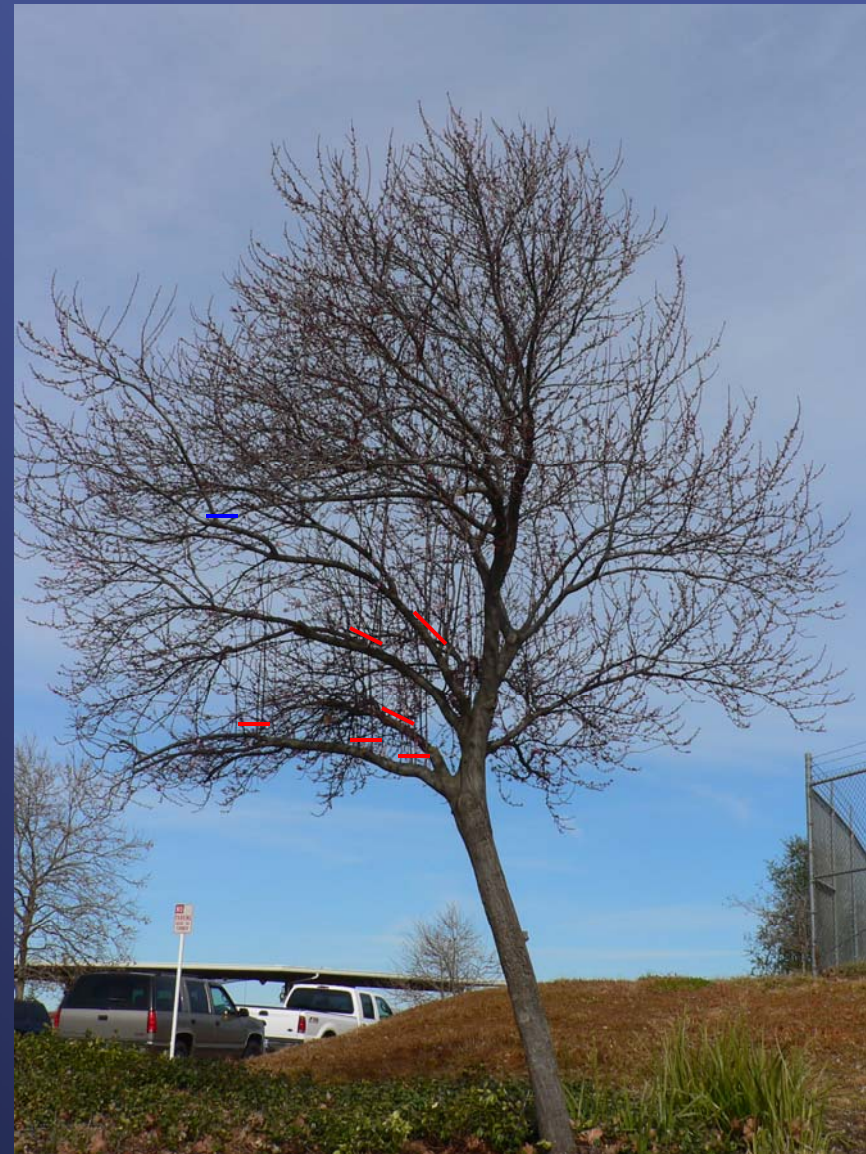
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Thank you
Hewlett Packard
and
Roseville Urban
Forest Foundation