



## TREE/SHRUB PRUNING

660

**Conservation Practice Job Sheet**

Landowner \_\_\_\_\_ Field No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the appearance of trees and/or shrubs	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the quality of wood products
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce fire and/or safety hazards	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve growth and vigor of understory plants
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjust foliage and branching density	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the production of plant products
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve health and vigor of woody plants	

Woody Species to be pruned: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of trees to be Pruned: \_\_\_\_\_

Pruning method (select from table below): \_\_\_\_\_

Method	DBH (In.)	Tree Height	Pruning Height
3-Step: a	3-5	15-20 ft	7-10 ft
b	4-5	25-30 ft	12-15 ft
c	5-8	35-40 ft	17-20 ft
2-Step: a	3-5	20-25 ft	10-12 ft
b	5-8	35-40 ft	17-20 ft

Tools for pruning: \_\_\_\_\_

Timing of pruning: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Considerations:**

1. Limit pruning activities to the dormant season (first frost to early March).
2. Do not prune oak species between budbreak and early November to reduce chances of spreading oak wilt disease.
3. Dead branches may be pruned at any time.
4. Black walnut and fruit trees may need to be pruned at an earlier stage to maintain the desired leader control.
5. For timber production purposes, prune only the dominant or codominant trees which will be future crop trees.
6. Do not remove more than 25% of the live tree canopy in any one year.
7. Do not paint or treat pruning cuts.
8. Cutting into the branch collar, pruning flush to the trunk, or leaving a large stub may enhance tree decay and cause wood cracks and tissue dieback.
9. Topping and tipping are improper pruning techniques and should not be used.

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<b>Additional Specifications and Notes:</b>