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JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

3331 Hwy 421 South
MCKEE, KY 40447

PHONE: (606) 287-7181 FAX: (606) 287-8469

DATE ADVERTISED:

Tuesday February 23th, 2021

CLOSING TIME OF BID:

Tuesday March 9th, 2021
10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME

THE JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL BE ACCEPTING SEALED PROPOSALS UNTIL

Tuesday, March 9th, 2021
AT 10:00 A.M.

FOR THE FOLLOWING BID ITEMS:

- Bus Parts and Batteries
- Garbage Collection Services
- Office Supplies
- Radio Communications
- Tires
- Mowing

ALL PROPOSALS ARE TO BE SEALED AND RECEIVED AT THE JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION BY TUESDAY MARCH 9TH, 2021, 10:00 A.M. LOCAL TIME.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR BID SPECS, CALL OR WRITE STEPHEN GABBARD, DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, AT JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, 3331 HWY 421S, MCKEE, KENTUCKY 40447 (606) 287-7181.

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The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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Yards to Paradise

Dormant Pruning for Deciduous Plants
by Max Phelps

Think of pruning trees and shrubs as "correcting" them, sort of like disciplining a child. Cutting a broken limb or a dead one can be done about anytime, but major pruning of deciduous plants should be done when they are dormant. That's after the leaves have fallen, and before the buds swell and come to life in the spring. And the best time for most decorative or fruiting trees is after most of winter is over, after it's warmed above freezing, but before growth has commenced in the new season.

Pruning is a chore. Even hard work. So why would you want to do it?

Correcting the growth of a shrub or a tree is best done a bit every year from time it is first planted, not try to deal with an especially unruly "child" after neglecting it too long. Besides keeping it from growing into an ugly and misshapen plant, besides appearances, there are other reasons to prune as well. Many flowering shrubs produce the most blooms (and fruit if it's a plant you expect to harvest fruit from) on two and three year old wood. Older wood can be less productive. New wood typically does not fruit the same season; however there are a few exceptions—butterfly bush, blue mist shrub and hummingbird bush come to mind—where all the new blooms will be on new growth. Another reason to prune is to restore vigor. An old holly tree may not produce as many berries as it did before it stopped growing. An old apple tree may not set fruit anymore (or it may overset but have little apples that all drop off before they mature). A wigela may quit flowering if there are no new shoots. A blueberry will yield almost no fruit if old growth isn't removed forcing the plant to put out some young new shoots. Keeping a tree from rubbing the house, from growing too tall, from hanging into the sidewalk or driveway, is another reason we might want to prune. Control, appearance, health and production are primary reasons to prune.

As mentioned, plants that flower on new growth need to be pruned in dormancy, as do most other deciduous trees. There are some plants that you should wait until after they've bloomed in the spring to prune them, otherwise you'll never see the display of flowers they want to show you. Azaleas for instance. Dogwoods. Redbuds.

Most evergreen trees are better pruned during the active growing season. Same for the shrubs. Spruce, fir, cedar, falsecypress, junipers, etc., fall into that category. As do the majority of broadleaf evergreens.

So what should you prune from your deciduous trees, and how?

You may want to shape a young tree so it grows to suit you. You may want to stake it so it grows straight. You may want to remove some limbs that are too close together or that are growing inward or are rubbing against other limbs. You may want to shorten some and cut back tips of all limbs, this will make an ornamental tree thicken and look more attractive. (Fruiting trees are best thinned rather than "thickened".) If you want it to grow into a tall and handsome tree, you will want it to have one central leader, one trunk. If several limbs are trying to be that one trunk, you'll have to shorten or eliminate all but the one you have chosen for the main trunk. On a few species you may want to have multiple trunks such as with a crape myrtle or birch trees.

Newly planted shrubs and trees probably lost some roots in the digging and moving process. It will get your new plant off and growing faster if you remove an equal amount of the growth above ground. I realize this is hard to do when you've just bought the prettiest tree at the nursery. Plants you purchased growing in containers generally don't need the trimming at planting time like bare root or B&B trees.

Older shrubbery sometimes just needs older limbs cut off with loppers, saw, pruning shears, down all the way to just above ground level. This forces the plant to grow some newer limbs.

Older shade trees may need but little pruning. Water sprouts, root sprouts, should be removed each year. Limbs growing inward or rubbing should have the offending portion pruned away or the whole limb removed. One of the problems with a large tree growing all alone is its top becomes so big and thick and heavy, when the ground is soft and the wind blows fierce, it can come crashing down. Thinning (removing) some of the limbs of such a tree so that wind can flow through its branches is the proper way to deal with this.

Butchering a tree and leaving just the trunk and a few stubs sticking up is not good tree care, although it may work for some types of shrubs or some evergreens such as a holly. Topping trees is not good practice, and not what I'd call pruning. In most cases where topping is chosen as a way to deal with problem trees, some other type of tree should have been chosen for that location to begin with.

Humid and moderately warm weather is the best time to prune. Not in summer heat, drying winds, nor when the limbs are frozen in cold weather.

Your trees and shrubbery will make you proud if you spend the time to correct and stimulate them.

The author is a landscaper. Comments welcome. Www.rockcastles.net, 606-416-3911.

Inspirational Thoughts Into God's Word

By Lynetta Hunter

(John 1:17, 3:1-21) It must have sounded like the stupidest question after it came out of his mouth, but at the time it was the only possible solution Nicodemus could come up with. The concept of being reborn was a wayward thought to Nicodemus, who didn't understand Christianity or have spiritual concept, even though He was a well-trained and respected nobleman concerning religious law, who proudly claimed his position as a descendant of the patriarch Abraham. His interest in Jesus and humbleness to approach Him, even if it was at night, created an opportunity for him to learn more about Him, abide in His words, and experience the freedom of knowing the truth of who He is and why He came.

Spiritual rebirth is still an experience that is complicated to the natural mind. Jesus explained to Nicodemus here, and Apostle Paul continued the teaching, that a carnal mind is death and enmity against God, but a spiritual mind is life and subject to the power of Jesus. (Romans 8)

For someone like Nicodemus, having an interest in Jesus is a good place to start. Sometimes courage has to be worked up and the right approach taken, but once that step is taken, a whole new prospective on life is opened up. Spiritual rebirth is the way to personally know God, His ways and will for a life, to be free from sin with imparted eternal life, and to be enlightened to freedom by grace, compared to the bondage of physical law. Nicodemus received an answer to his question that changed his life, and created a bond with Jesus that lasted throughout Jesus' earthly life and possibly through eternity.