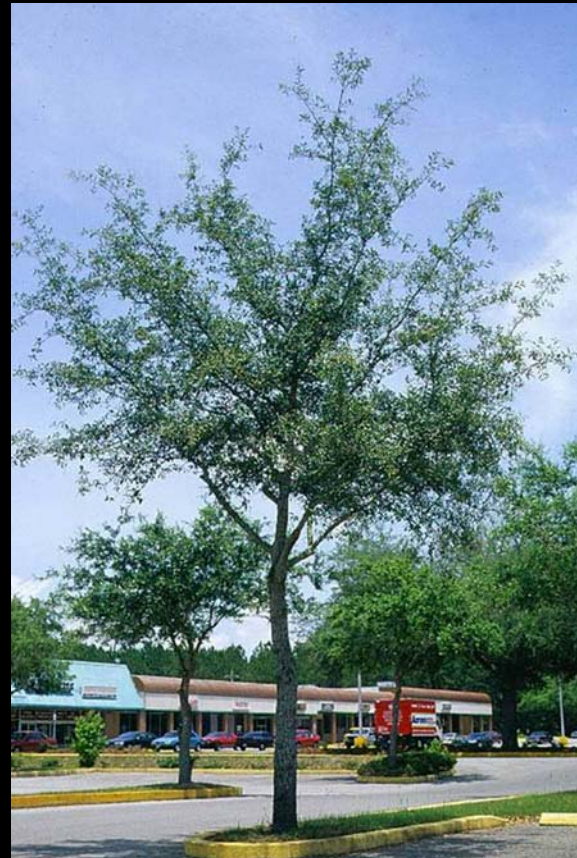


Preventive Pruning: young trees

- Determine pruning cycle and dose
- Execute pruning plan
 - make good cuts
 - prioritize trees with structural issues
 - temporary vs. permanent branch management



Codominant Leader

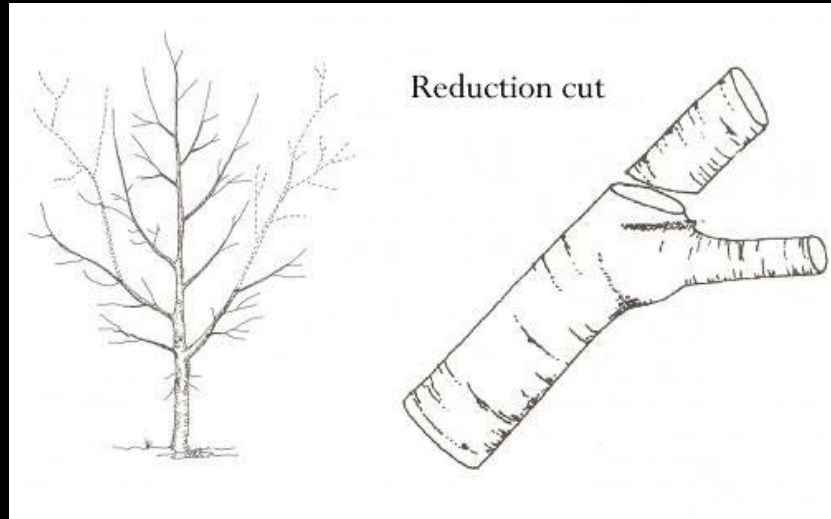


Steps for removing a codominant leader:

1. Stand back and evaluate the structure of the tree
2. Once you've identified the co-dominant leader, carefully remove it using the 3-step cut method
3. Make the best cut possible to ensure proper compartmentalization
4. Stand back again, and admire your good work. Your proactive pruning approach will likely allow the tree to live many years longer than if the Co-Dominant stem was left in place

Remove the 'codom'

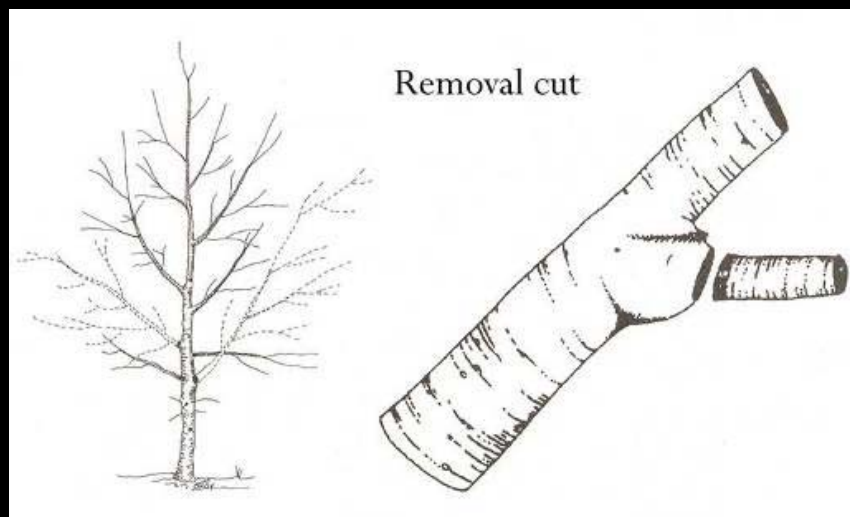




Types of pruning cuts:

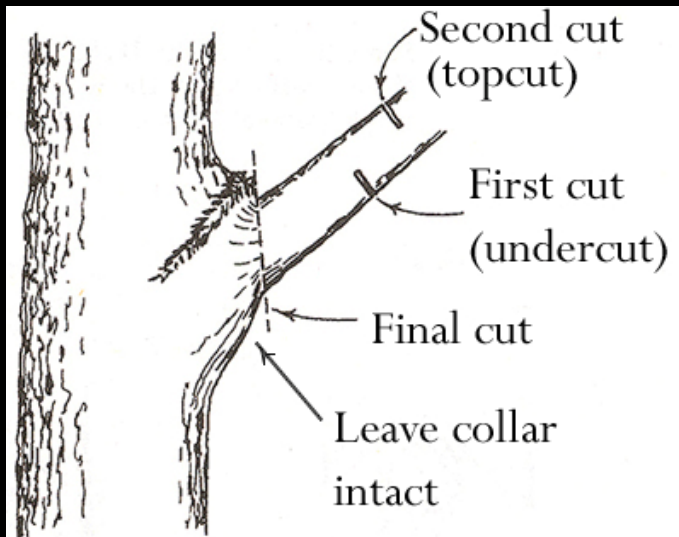
Reduction cut

the length of a stem by pruning back to a smaller limb.



Removal cut

branch back to the trunk or parent branch



Step 1

Make an undercut about 12 inches from the trunk.

Step 2

Make a topcut farther out on the limb.

Step 3

Remove the stub with final cut, being careful not to cut flush against the trunk. Leave the collar intact.





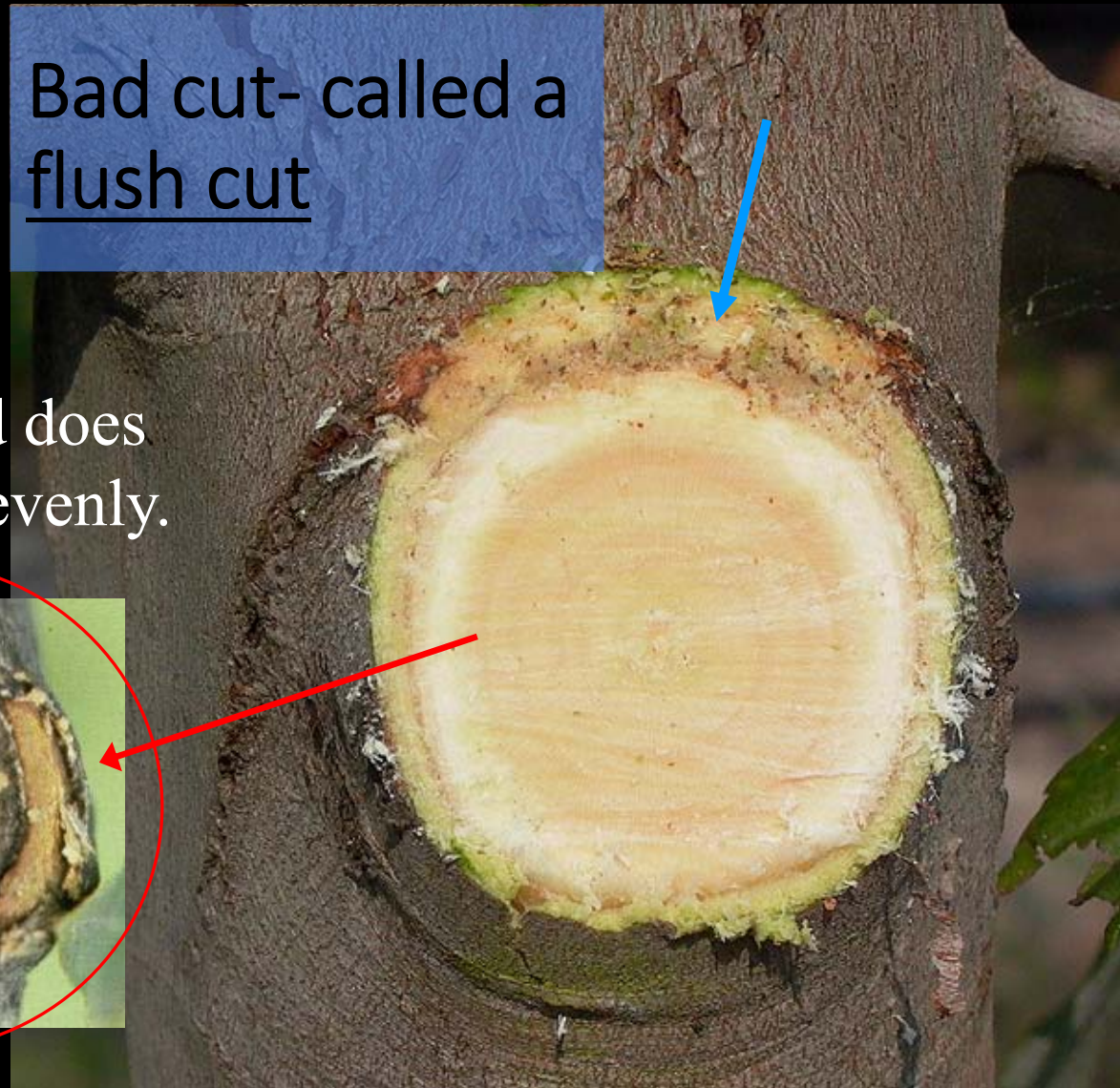
Branch bark ridge

Collar

Collar: swollen area at the base of the branch where it joins the trunk. The tissue is rich in energy reserves and chemicals that hinder the spread of decay. Good pruning cuts avoid cutting into the collar.

Bad cut- called a
flush cut

Wound wood does
not develop evenly.



Pruning strategies

- Execution
 - Prioritize which trees to prune
 - Decide location of lowest permanent limb
temporary branch management vs. permanent branch management

Pruning Plan: First 5 years

Do not remove more than 35% of live foliage at a pruning visit.

Reduce all branches greater than ½ trunk diameter.

Reduce and/or remove all branches or stems competing with the one selected to be the leader.

Reduce and/or remove large, low vigorous branches.

Remove broken, cracked or severely damaged branches

Pruning Plan: 5 – 20 years

Reduce all branches greater than ½ trunk diameter.

Identify lowest scaffold limbs of the permanent canopy and ***reduce*** all aggressive lower branches.

Reduce branches with included bark.

Reduce or remove competing leaders (if there are more than 3 competing leaders, this can be done in stages).

Reduce branches within 18'' of largest limbs.

Pruning Plan: 20 – 30 years

branches within 18-36'' to avoid clustered branches.

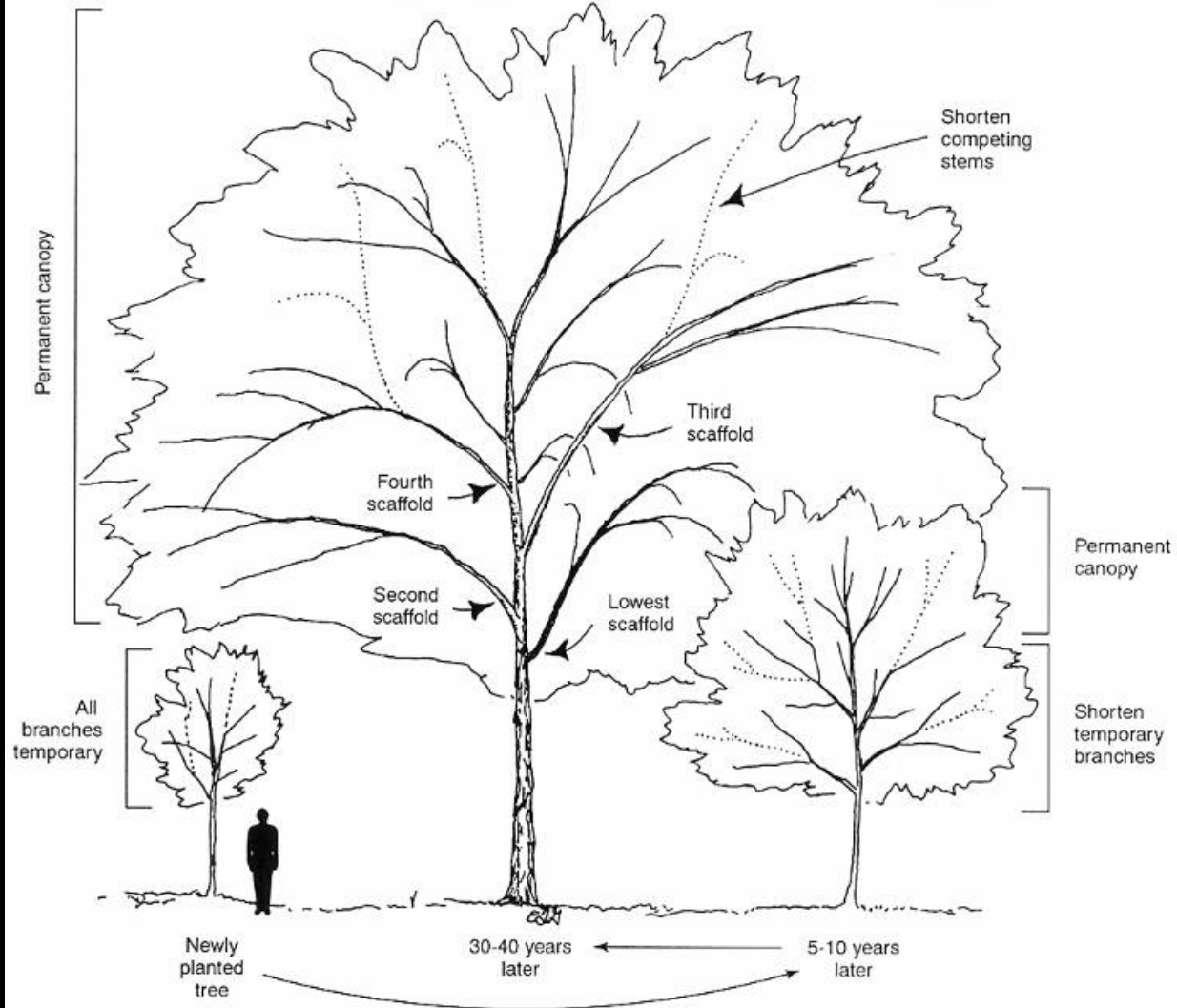
Space permanent scaffold limbs to reduce wind resistance.

Remove many or all of the branches below the first permanent limb.

Reduce branches with included bark.

Reduce and/or remove competing leaders.

Developing the permanent canopy



Recommended Pruning Tools:

- Hand saw
- Pruners
- Loppers
- Pole saw
- Pole snips
- Small chainsaw
- Orchard ladder

Other Equipment:

- An Aerial Lift
- Climbing Saddle & Climbing Line

Personal Protective Equipment:

- Helmet
- Gloves
- Eye Protection
- Ear Protection
- Chaps
- Work boots
- Long sleeves
- Pants



Charter Oak Scion, located in Bushnell Park

