

Table 24-A. General pruning guidelines for specific plants		
Plant name	Symbol	Comments
Broom, <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	af	Cut stems to a bud or shoot below spent flowers.
Boxwood, <i>Buxus</i>	bsg	Cut overlong branches to bud within the bush to hide the cut. Slow to recover after heavy pruning.
Bush-clover, <i>Lespedeza</i>	bsg, x	Cut to ground in spring.
Butterfly Bush, <i>Buddleia davidii</i>	bsg, x	Remove crowded stems yearly and cut back remaining stems to two or three buds above the ground. (Species from Asia and Central America are listed as a "Plant Invader of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas" by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.)
Camellia, <i>Camellia japonica</i>	af	Routine pruning not required. Deadhead after flowering. Renovate by cutting one third of the oldest wood to the ground per year.
Camellia, <i>Camellia sasanqua</i>		Fall and winter bloomers bsg. Spring bloomers, af. Remove old branches that cease to flower. Shorten overlong branches by cutting back to a healthy branch.
Cherries, <i>Prunus</i>	af, hc	Cut overgrown branches back to another branch or the trunk. Do heavy pruning before spring growth.
Clematis, <i>Clematis</i>		Double flowered. Avoid pruning. Flower in autumn on shoots produced in the current year. Cut back plant to lowest pair of healthy buds in late winter. Large flowers in summer on shoots produced the previous year. Second flowering can be had by cutting back half of the stems in late winter. Many small flowers in spring on shoots produced the previous year. Prune after flowering, only if necessary.
Cotoneaster, <i>Cotoneaster</i>	bsg, x	Head back if necessary. <i>C. horizontalis</i> should not be cut back hard.
Crabapple, <i>Malus</i>	af	Remove suckers.
Crape myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	bsg	Can be trained as a single- or multi-stemmed tree.
Cypress, <i>Chamaecyparis</i>	bsg	If pruning is necessary, do not cut into old wood where there are no viable buds.
Deutzia, <i>Deutzia</i>	af, tc	Cut one stem in three of oldest or weakest stems to ground after flowering. Keep center of plant thinned out.
Dogwood, <i>Cornus</i>	af	Remove vertically growing branches that develop on the tops of more horizontally growing branches. Heavy pruning should be done before spring growth.
Dogwood, Redosier, <i>Cornus sericea</i>	bsg, x, tc	For brightest color on stems, cut old dark stems to ground.
Elaeagnus, <i>Elaeagnus</i>	bsg	Routine pruning is not required. Remove long shoots as necessary.
Euonymous, <i>Euonymous</i>	bsg	Routine pruning is not required. It can be sheared mid season if desired.
Fir, <i>Abies</i>		Remove tip of laterals only. Do not pinch leader. Do not cut into wood without needles.
Forsythia, <i>Forsythia</i>	af, x, tc	Cut one stem in three of oldest or weakest stems to ground after flowering.
Fothergilla, <i>Fothergilla</i>	bsg	Routine pruning is not required.
Fringe-tree, <i>Chionanthus</i>	af, hc	Branches can be cut back to control size.
Goldenrain tree, <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	bsg	Keep pruning to a minimum.
Hawthorn, <i>Crataegus</i>	af	Routine pruning is not required.
Hemlock, <i>Tsuga</i>	bsg	Can be sheared, but generally requires no pruning.
Hibiscus, <i>Hibiscus</i>	bsg	Routine pruning is not required.
Holly, <i>Ilex</i>	bsg, x, hc	Head back, if necessary. Can be pruned in winter for berries.
af after flowering bsg before spring growth x generally can be cut to ground in spring when dormant, if needed for drastic renewal of old or overgrown plants hc heading cut (see Fig. 24-C). tc thinning cut (see Fig. 24-D).		

Table continued on next page.