

# PRUNING MATURE TREES

## UNDERSTAND THE PRUNING NEEDS OF LARGE TREES



*Leave dangerous pruning to the pros*



*Improper pruning, such as the "topping" shown above, can seriously harm trees*

### WHAT IS PRUNING?

Pruning is the selective removal of plant parts to achieve defined objectives. Pruning mature landscape trees requires a high level of care to maintain their structural integrity, aesthetics, and safety.

### WHY PRUNE WITH CARE?

No tree part should be removed without a reason. When poorly performed, pruning can harm the tree's health, stability, and appearance. This is especially true for older, larger trees.

### WHAT IS TOPPING?

Topping is the reduction of tree size by removing large, live branches and leaders without regard to long-term tree health or structural integrity. Topped trees cannot defend themselves from decay and may produce new, unstable branches that easily fail.

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### WHEN IN DOUBT— **CALL A PROFESSIONAL!**

Professional arborists can determine the type of pruning necessary to improve the health, appearance, and safety of your trees. Prior to pruning, a qualified professional should visually inspect the trees to be pruned and understand your desires.

To find a professional arborist or verify a credential please visit:

[treesaregood.org](https://treesaregood.org)



THE CITY OF  
**MANCHESTER**  
MISSOURI

# YOUR LOCAL URBAN FOREST

Trees are one of the greatest assets a city can have. They play a major role in cleaning our air and water, reducing electricity bills by shading our buildings, and providing natural beauty. Just like any asset, trees require some basic maintenance and consideration.

## Tree Advisory Board

Did you know Manchester has a Tree Advisory Board that meets regularly? Their goal is to develop and maintain the community's trees and forest in a strong, healthy condition for today and the future.

## Municipal Tree Packet

The Manchester Tree Advisory Board has developed an information packet that can answer questions about your urban forest related needs.

**For more information on your city's  
urban forest, please visit:**

**[www.manchestermo.gov/treeboard](http://www.manchestermo.gov/treeboard)**

*Have tree questions? Please contact the Tree Advisory Board at  
[treeboard@manchestermo.gov](mailto:treeboard@manchestermo.gov)  
or call 636-227-1385 (ext. 168)*



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