

7. Ornamental Trees

Ornamental trees are grown for their flowers, foliage, attractive bark or fruits.

Annual Schedule

Early Spring	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed • Keep area beneath the canopy free of weeds • Check stakes and ties • Inspect TPOs • Complete any necessary pruning of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Betula ALL (Bet u J) (BetPF) (BetP) ○ Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet' (Crat PS) 	
Late Spring	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep area under the canopy free of weeds • Inspect TPOs • Check stakes and ties 	
Summer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prune Prunus (Pru SB) (Pru SER) during periods of dry, settled weather • Prune wayward growth of Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet' (Crat PS) after flowering if required • Thoroughly water trees planted in the first three years particularly in periods of draught • Keep area under canopy free of weeds 	
Autumn	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check stakes and ties • Mulch with organic matter 	
Winter	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refirm roots after frosts or strong winds • Check stakes and ties • Prune when dormant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alnus glutinosa Laciniata (Alnus G) ○ Betula utilis var. jacquemontii (Bet u J) ○ Carpinus ALL (Carp BF) (Carp BFran) ○ Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet' (Crat PS) ○ Acer Campestre (Acer C) 	

Further Information

Trees require watering, feeding and the area beneath their canopy to be kept free of weeds during the first few years:

- Ensure trees receive plenty of water during particularly periods of drought in the first three years.
- Trees benefit from feeding during the first few years. Organic matter can be applied as a mulch in autumn. Granular or liquid fertilisers can be applied in spring.
- Keep the area under the canopy free of weeds and grass. Mulching will help to suppress weed growth.
- Remove suckers promptly as they divert nutrients away from the tree

Correct pruning and training helps to maintain a tree's health and vigour and encourages it to develop a strong framework of evenly spaced branches:

- Most deciduous trees are best pruned when they are dormant in late autumn or early winter. Avoid late winter and spring when many trees are emerging from their dormant season and may bleed or exude their sap.
- A tree will naturally form a strong main stem or leader that thickens with age to form a solid central trunk supporting the crown. Any second leaders should be removed early on by cutting back to base with secateurs.
- Trees that bleed profusely such as Prunus should be pruned in mid to late summer after their new growth has matured.
- Evergreen trees need little pruning except for the removal of dead or diseased branches which should be carried out in the summer.

!! Tree Protection Orders (TPOs)

A TPO is the legal protection given to a tree by a local authority. A tree will be granted protected status if it is judged as providing a significant benefit to the public or its removal would have a significant impact on the environment.

Land owners remain responsible for the maintenance of the tree and inspections should be carried out regularly to ensure the tree is healthy and safe to the public. Written consent must be sought from the Local Authority prior to any necessary work including work within the root zone. Consent may also be subject to conditions.

Work should be carried out by a qualified tree surgeon.