



- **Eight years**
  - shorten or remove competing leaders
  - do not remove more than 25 to 35% of foliage
  - determine where you want the lowest permanent scaffold limb and shorten all large or vigorous branches lower than this limb
  - shorten branches within 12-18" of largest diameter branches (there should be only one large branch per node (no clustered branches)
  - shorten low branches that will have to be removed later so they do not become large
- **Fourteen years**
  - shorten or remove competing leaders
  - identify several permanent scaffold limbs
  - shorten vigorous branches within 18-36" of permanent scaffold limbs
  - shorten or remove large branches lower (on the trunk) than the lowest permanent scaffold limb
  - there should be only one large branch per node (no clustered branches)
  - shorten low branches that will have to be removed latter
- **Twenty years**
  - shorten or remove competing leaders
  - identify 5 to 10 permanent scaffold limbs
  - shorten aggressive branches within 18-36" of permanent scaffold limbs
  - shorten or remove large branches lower (on the trunk) than the first permanent branch
  - there should be only one large branch per node (no clustered branches)
  - shorten low branches that will have to be removed latter
- **Twenty-five years**
  - shorten or remove competing leaders
  - continue to develop and space permanent scaffold limbs
  - shorten branches within 36" of permanent scaffold limbs
  - shorten or remove large branches lower (on the trunk) than the first permanent branch
  - there should be only one large branch per node (no clustered branches)
  - shorten low branches that will have to be removed latter

With seven prunings in the first 25 years after planting, a good structure can be developed that can place the tree on the road to becoming a permanent fixture in the landscape. Less frequent pruning may be acceptable if good quality nursery trees were planted with a dominant leader, and trees were irrigated appropriately until established.

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