

By DLC Resources, Inc.

Shrub Management



Seasonal Pruning stimulates natural growth and produces more blooms.



The Growing Season

During the summer growing season we can see shrubs all around the community are lush, healthy and blooming. With the cooler temperatures throughout the fall and winter months, our desert shrubs will slow their growth dramatically and remain contained in the space foreseen for them. During this cooler season (roughly November through April) shrubs on the property will be selectively pruned to reduce their size before the onset of next year's growing season.

Common Pruning Practices

Most contractors choose to shear shrubs indiscriminately and repeatedly (6 - 10 times) throughout the growing season. The advantage is that employees need little training, knowledge, or supervision to simply shear every plant on the property each time they are in an area. Some choose particular shapes (cones, balls, flat tops, beer kegs, etc.). This practice is detrimental to the health of the plant. The plant requires more water to recover the lost

foliage. Additionally, it is extremely labor intensive which leaves other maintenance details unattended (maintenance of tree stakes, weeds, irrigation needs, etc.)



Constant shearing throughout the growing season results in declining health and fewer blooms.

Proper Pruning

Seasonal pruning consists of trimming shrubs back to roughly half their size (on some species even more, e.g. the red bird of paradise) to allow them to grow back in to the space allotted to them in the following growing season. Exceptions to the program described above are shrubs that encroach on streets or sidewalks or those which obstruct lines of sight at intersections or near road signs. These shrubs will be trimmed as needed to remain compatible with their available space.

Sage



This healthy Sage has reached its peak size at the end of the growing season.

After Seasonal Prune



This Sage is cut back to roughly half its size. The surrounding area is cleaned and irrigation checked.

Natural Growth



This Sage was seasonally pruned. It is growing naturally in its restricted space.