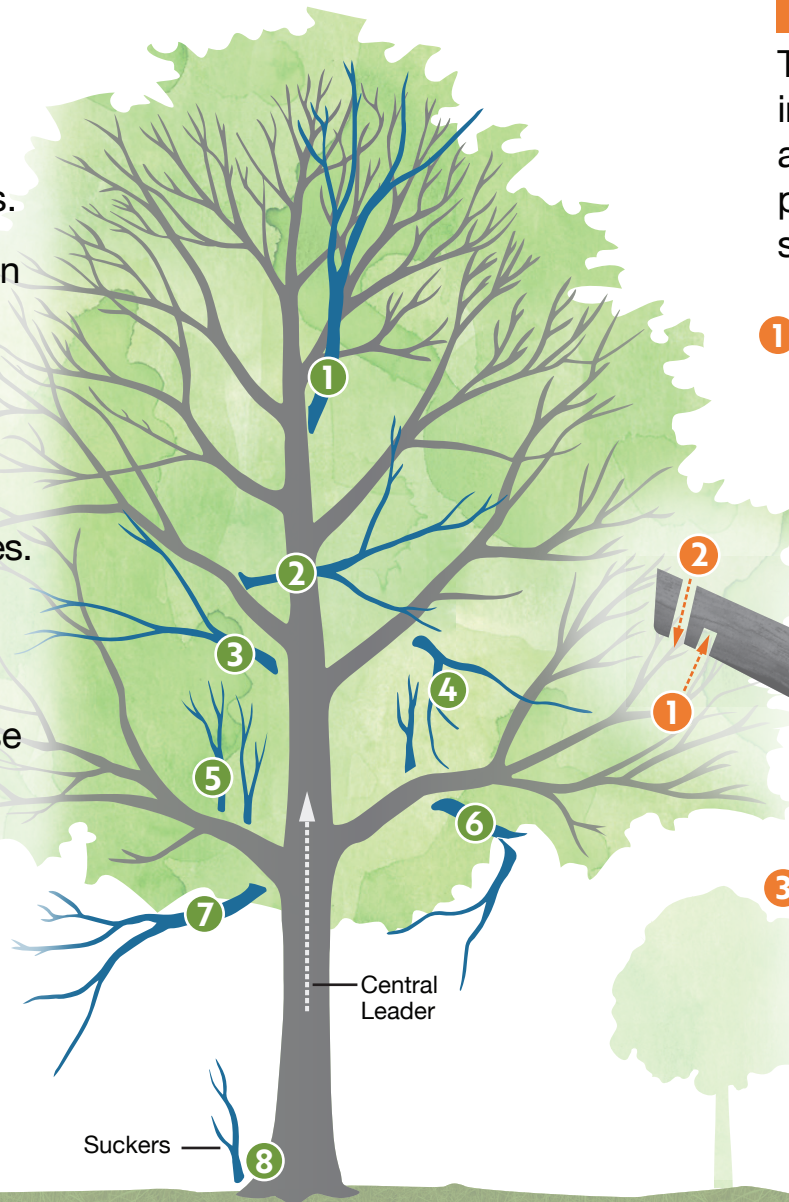


Tree Pruning

Healthy Pruning Cuts

- 1 Limbs that compete with the tree's central leader.
- 2 Rubbing, crossing branches.
- 3 Inadequate spacing between branches.
- 4 Awkward unattractive branches.
- 5 Watersprouts that shoot up from main "scaffold" branches.
- 6 Dead, diseased, or broken limbs.
- 7 Limbs that sag or grow close to the ground.
- 8 Suckers that grow from the roots or base of the trunkground.



How to Make a Pruning Cut

To prune a tree limb larger than 2 inches in diameter cleanly and safely, as shown in the image above, use a pruning saw and make these three sequential cuts:

- 1 On the bottom of the limb between 6 and 12 inches from the trunk; cut about one-quarter of the way through.
- 2 Through the limb from the top, starting about 1 inch beyond the first cut. The weight of the branch may cause it to snap off before the cut is complete.
- 3 Cut completely through the short remaining stub from top to bottom just beyond the swollen branch collar. Support the stub while sawing to make a clean cut.

