

# crosby landscape GreenSpace



crosbylandscape.ca

Pruning or shearing helps contain your shrubs' growth, gives them a particular form and maintains their overall health. But what's the difference between them?

## PRUNING

Crosby uses one of two basic methods for pruning shrubs — either thinning or gradual rejuvenation to give shrubs a more natural form.

Thinning involves removing entire branches back to a main branch, to the trunk or ground level. This allows essential nutrients to get to the inside and lower parts of the shrub.

The rejuvenation or gradual renewal pruning method involves annually removing a few of the oldest and tallest branches at, or slightly above, ground level. This three-year method works well for old, overgrown shrubs.

## SHEARING

Shearing shrubs involves shaping the plants into formal hedges for aesthetic or privacy purposes. Crosby Landscape takes proper care to shear back your hedge to only a few leaves formed since the previous shearing — usually leaving about 1 to 2 inches of new growth. As we shear, we remove mutilated branches and leaves, along with dead, leafless interior branches.

## OPTIMAL TIMES TO PRUNE AND SHEAR

*Summer-blooming shrubs should be pruned in early spring before buds set, or in summer immediately after flowering. If you want to suppress growth of suckers and foliage, summer is the time to prune your shrubs.*

*Shearing can be done anytime after the shrubs have completed their growth for the season. You'll want to shear as frequently as needed to keep your plant the desired size and shape.*



If you have comments or would like to send a message to Jeff Crosby, please email [jeff@crosbylandscape.com](mailto:jeff@crosbylandscape.com)



## Watering Wisdom

### *Sandy Soil*

The key to watering sandy soils is to water less frequently but for longer periods. This encourages deeper root systems on plants and allows them to penetrate deeper into the soil where there is more water available than there is at the surface.

### *Clay Soil*

Clay soil tends to hold water for long periods of time, therefore, if your garden soil is made up of clay, you should be watering less frequently. Spots in your yard that stay wet are a sign you need to reduce the amount of water you are applying.



# Healthy Gardening Habits

Keeping your garden gorgeous during the heat of summer requires a certain amount of knowledge and upkeep. Crosby Landscape's bed maintenance service has you covered so you can enjoy the results.

## 1 EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR MULCH

When our team is cultivating in the garden, rather than breaking soil, we prefer to turn the mulch first. Here's why:

- Aesthetically, it will bring the natural colour back to the mulch creating an appearance of a fresh mulch application.
- Cultivating existing mulch breaks up any existing compaction and rejuvenates the organic matter that exists in the mulch.
- Cultivation will freshen up the overall appearance of the planting beds and typically costs about 35% - 40% less than a standard mulch application to your property.

## 2 GIVE YOUR GARDEN THE EDGE

We edge garden beds fully in the spring but throughout the season, we are monitoring for erosion. Edging looks great but if it's over done, beds become too large and not proportionate to the plantings.

## 3 GO WEED-FREE

As plants fill out in early summer, if you've kept them weeded up to that point, they should begin to shade out most of their weed competition.

## 4 PRUNE WITH PURPOSE

Our vast knowledge of various plant and tree species will ensure that they will receive the proper pruning at the right time.

## 5 TIDY UP YOUR SPACE

Litter and debris removal and disposal is part of what we do to help preserve your property value.



## Lawn 101

Crosby Landscape cares about your lawn as much as you do.

**SUMMER FERTILIZING** gives your lawn a boost in the hot summer months as grass growth can struggle without it. Our team applies the proper mix to feed your lawn throughout the summer to strengthen grass blades and enable faster recovery from heat and drought.

**SUMMER WEED CONTROL** requires a targeted post-emergent herbicide application. Fiesta™ Weed Control is an effective solution for killing weeds without damaging grass. For weeds growing in hard surfaces we apply Munger Horticultural Vinegar. This solution is applied all season long on a biweekly basis.