



Yellow Dot that has overgrown and would benefit from rejuvenation pruning.

How are Shrubs Rejuvenated?

- ❖ One method is to cut all stems about 12 to 18 inches above ground. This is often referred to as 'cutbacks' or 'restoration pruning' and is usually completed during the shrub's dormancy or after blooming season.
- ❖ Some shrubs, like Cassia, Arborvitae & juniper, do not respond well to restoration pruning; while others, such as Sage, Oleander, Hop Bush & Creosote, benefit well when cutback in the right season.
- ❖ Another approach to rejuvenating shrubs is to remove half or more of the older unproductive branches at the base of the plant, or those growing into the canopy. This method usually requires follow-up pruning.
- ❖ Frost-damaged Lantana & Red Birds of Paradise can be rejuvenated by pruning down, close to the ground after the danger of frost has passed.



Sample of shrub directly after rejuvenation pruning

What is Rejuvenation Pruning?

- ❖ Rejuvenation pruning is usually conducted on old & overgrown shrubs to encourage the plants natural growth.
- ❖ Many shrubs in our urban landscapes are often sheared when they overgrow the location in which they're planted.
- ❖ Some shrubs such as Xylosma, Japanese Boxwood & Myrtle do well in our climate, & will not tolerate shearing.
- ❖ Most native and adapted shrubs do not tolerate shearing well & will usually suffer a shorter life span.



Birds of Paradise will grow naturally after rejuvenation pruning

What are the Benefits of Rejuvenation?

- ❖ After rejuvenation pruning, old/overgrown shrubs are able to return to their natural growth habits.
- ❖ Frequent pruning increases a plant's water use as well as their potential for disease. Only pruning when necessary mitigates the plant's water needs & stress.
- ❖ Rejuvenation pruning also helps to rebuild informal hedges that may have been sheared in the past.
- ❖ Pruning once per year, touching-up as needed, helps to save time, effort, money, water, and flowers in comparison to regular shearing.