UVM Grounds Department
Horticulture Maintenance
Helping to keep our campus beautiful

By Bobby Clarke, Grounds Maintenance Specialist &
Adam Holmes, Grounds Maintenance Worker
Overview

• UVM—300+ acre campus
• Arguably one of the most beautiful in the country
• Enormous variety of plantings that require horticultural maintenance at different times of the year using different techniques
Studies have shown that 62% of high school seniors made their choice of institutions on the basis of the appearance of the campus buildings and grounds. (Boyer 1987)
Why Do We Prune?

- Pedestrian safety
- To optimize tree and shrub beauty
- To minimize the opportunities for insects and disease
- To shape hedges and shrubs for a neat, formal, appearance
Why Do We Prune? (Cont.)

• To thicken hedges for privacy and appearance
• To keep hedges and shrubs in scale with the building and people
• All with the goal of creating and environment that is a joy to live, work, and learn in
What Do We Prune?

• Trees up to about 35’ tall
What Do We Prune? (Cont.)

• Hedges of all shapes and sizes
Other Horticulture Maintenance (HM) Activities

• Removal of invasives
Other HM Activities (Cont.)

• Planting spring annuals
Other HM Activities (Cont.)

- Planting fall annuals (mums)
Other HM Activities (Cont.)

• New installations (perennials)
Other HM Activities (Cont.)

- Broken tree limbs
Other HM Activities (Cont.)

• Spring mulch bed edging and installations
  – Mulch beds are first edged
  – Edgings removed
  – Often remove old mulch
  – Weed beds before laying mulch
  – Lay and smooth the mulch
Recap

• Pruning maintains the beauty of the University
• We prune trees, shrubs and hedges
• Our HM other activities include planting trees, shrubs and flowers, mulching, and caring for broken limbs.
Recap (Cont.)

• Our mission is to keep the University of Vermont’s campus a safe, beautiful place to live, work, and learn.