With the American National standard for pruning, ANSI A300, specifications can be written in a virtual infinite number of combinations. The following information is designed to help you understand exactly what will be accomplished in a pruning operation done by LAWN-N-ORDER.

**Branch Size**—A minimum or maximum diameter size of branches to be removed should be specified in all pruning operations. This establishes how much pruning is to be done.

**Pruning Objectives**—

- **Hazard Reduction Pruning (HRP)** — Is recommended when the primary objective is to reduce the danger to a specific target caused by visibly defined hazards in a tree. For example, HRP may be the primary objective if a tree has many dead limbs over a park bench.
- **Maintenance Pruning (MP)** — Is recommended when the primary objective is to maintain or improve tree health and structure, and includes hazard reduction pruning. An example here might be to perform an MP operation on a front yard tree.
Defined terms—

• **Crown cleaning** — The selective removal of one or more of the following items: dead, dying or diseased branches, weak branches and watersprouts

• **Crown thinning** — The selective removal of branches to increase light penetration, air movement and to reduce weight

• **Crown raising** — The removal of the lower branches to provide clearance

• **Crown reduction or shaping** — Decrease the height and/or spread of a tree. Consideration should be given to the ability of the species to sustain this type of pruning

• **Vista pruning** — The selective thinning of framework limbs or specific areas of the crown to allow a view of an object from a predetermined spot

• **Crown restoration** — Should improve the structure, form and appearance of trees which have been severely headed, vandalized or storm damaged.