Pruning Azaleas

Today on Gardening in a Minute: pruning azaleas.

Azaleas in Florida bloom from late February to early April. They are used as foundation plantings, in mass, or even as specimen plants.

Pruning is necessary to obtain a full, well-branched azalea. Several light prunings early in the growing season will result in compact growth and numerous branches.

Always prune shortly after flowering, in late spring or early summer because azaleas set their flower buds for next year during the summer.

Before you start, look at the plant you intend to work on. Remove shaded out branches first since these often become dead wood.

Older plants may have tall leggy branches that need to be removed. Doing so gradually over several years reduces shock to the plant.

Pruning your azaleas can keep them looking healthy and having a bountiful bloom.

For more information about azaleas and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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