

How to use this list

Each entry in the list provides the following information:

- Mature size (Height x Width) use this information to help locate the tree on your property. Keep in mind that roots often extend to or even beyond the ultimate spread of the tree.
- Characteristics of the tree with a brief description
- Exposure and culture information.
- Evergreen or Deciduous

List of recommended medium to large trees (n-denotes native)

Carpinus carolina/American hornbeam (n)

40' x 35' (variable)

Orange to red fall color, interesting bark. Usually multi-stemmed, slow to medium growth rate, dark green leaves, best to purchase as a container grown plant. Larval host to butterflies. Fruit is a small nut. Resembles the beech and is often confused with it.

Full sun to shade

Deciduous

Nyssa sylvatica/Black Gum (n)

75' x 35'

Deep red fall color, one of our best fall coloring trees, dense foliage, pyramidal shape. Tolerant of wet soils. Medium growth rate, usually fruits are consumed by birds before they drop. Attracts pollinators. Protect small trees from deer. Best to purchase as a container grown plant. Has a taproot, and is resistant to blowing over in storms.

Full sun to partial shade

Deciduous

Quercus borealis/Red oak (n)

80' x 40'

Reddish fall color, shiny green foliage. Pyramidal shape when young, opening and rounding with age. Transplant either balled and burlapped or container grown. Quickest growing oak, up to two feet per year. Very storm resistant, clean in habit, and pollution resistant. Insect and disease resistant. Host to larval stages of many butterflies and moths. Transplant oaks in spring.

Full sun

Deciduous

Quercus phellos/Willow oak (n)

50' x 35'

Dense branching fine textured oak with a yellow-green fall color. Lower branches droop. Easily transplanted, somewhat shallower rooted than Red oak, but with good storm resistance. Medium to quick growing. Clean habit, pollution resistant. Insect and disease resistant. Host to larval stages of many butterflies and moths. Tolerates compacted, poorly drained soil, drought tolerant.

Full sun

Deciduous

Juniperus virginiana/Eastern redcedar (n)

45' x 20'(variable with cultivar)

Dense evergreen with an overall pyramidal shape that opens up with age. Great screening and windbreak plant. Attractive bark. Very tolerant of adverse growing conditions. Makes a fine tall evergreen hedge. Many cultivars to choose from

Full sun

Evergreen (leaves may brown in very harsh winters)

Ilex opaca/American holly (n)

40' x 30'

Broadleaf evergreen with bright red berries. Medium growth rate, tolerant of partial shade. Fruit is attractive to birds, small flowers attract pollinators, and dense growth attracts nesting birds. Moist, well-drained soil is preferred, but tolerant of soils except permanently wet soils. Sexes are separate; females require a male for fruit set. Useful for screening.

Full sun to partial shade; avoid alkaline soils, top dress with compost in spring.

Evergreen

Ginkgo biloba "Autumn gold"/"Autumn gold male ginkgo

50' x 35'

Bright golden fall color appears suddenly over the entire tree, fall leaves create a golden carpet on the ground as they fall close to the tree. One of the finest trees when in color. Fan shaped leaves are bright green in summer. The tree is free of insect and disease problems. Symmetrical branching with an oval upright form. Medium to fast growing, the tree adapts to a variety of soil types. Drought tolerant. Very storm and ice resistant. Quick growing. ***Plant male trees only***, females produce a foul smelling fruit.

Full sun to partial shade.

Deciduous.

Betula nigra "Heritage"/"Heritage" river birch (n)

50' x 40'

Most often grown as a multi-stemmed plant, it is also available in a single stem.

Exfoliating yellowish bark reveals cinnamon colored inner bark, especially effective in winter. It is tolerant of wet soils, but is also soil adaptable. Drought tolerant. Mostly insect and disease free.

Yellow-green fall color. Quick growing, clean habit. Storm and wind resistant. Supports numerous butterflies and moths, seeds attract birds. Creates dappled shade.

Full sun. Cultivars include "Duraheat" more heat tolerant than others.

Deciduous.

Sassafras albidum/Common sassafras (n)

50' x 30'

Rounded-oblong shaped tree with irregular branching. Medium growth rate. Branching habit is attractive against winter snow. Interesting corky bark. Bright green leaves turn a fine yellow-orange to deep red in fall. Fruit is a favorite of birds, and attractive. Best sited in acid soils, avoid wet locations.

Can be grown as a single specimen, just remove shoots that develop. Fairly disease and insect resistant will have yellowish leaves in iron poor soils. A fine native that should be planted more often.

Full sun

Deciduous

Tilia tomentosa/Silver linden

60' x 40'

Wind resistant shade tree well suited for lawns. The smooth grey bark is attractive all seasons. Upright oval in profile as it matures, in youth it is more pyramidal. Lustrous beautiful dark green leaves with a silver underside which is particularly effective in a breeze. Attracts pollinators. Tolerates different soils as well as heat and drought.

Full sun

Deciduous

Zelkova serrata/Japanese zelkova

60' x 35'

Very wind resistant shade tree somewhat vase shaped. Dark green leaves, variable fall color. Drought resistant. Easy to grow. Fairly quick growing especially in youth. Cultivars include "village green" and "green vase" which is more vase shaped and quicker growing than the other cultivars. Good disease resistance.

Full sun

Deciduous