

Recommended Native Tree Species

Shade Trees:

American Basswood (*Tilia americana*) 50-70' Native linden with fragrant flowers loved by bees. Grows in average to wet soil and light conditions. 26lb/cubic for carbon sequestration.

Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) 30-40' One of our most beautiful native trees, it has a pyramidal form and a slow growth rate; spectacular scarlet fall color; doesn't mind wet feet; can tolerate full sun to semi-shade. 35lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) 30-50' Hackberry is commonly used for street plantings because of its tolerance of poor soils and air pollution. Excellent for wildlife, hackberry serves as host to a number of butterflies and moths and produces berries that are as popular with birds. 37lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Oaks (*Quercus sp.*) 40-75' + Excellent wildlife habitat; several species don't mind wet feet. Subspecies include: Swamp White Oak (*Q. bicolor*) with a broad-rounded habit and wide-spreading branches, tolerates wet feet, requires full sun; Chinkapin Oak (*Q. muehlenbergii*), named Municipal Tree of the Year in 2009, has an open rounded crown, doesn't tolerate wet feet, does best in full sun; Pin Oak (*Q. palustris*) with a strongly pyramidal habit, relatively fast-growing, tolerates wet feet and even occasional flooding; Red Oak (*Q. rubra*) with a rounded habit, fast-growing, leaves turn russet brown to red in fall. Willow Oak (*Q. phellos*) Upright canopy with narrow willow like leaves creating a light, airy canopy. Tolerates most soil conditions. 43lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) 40-60' Medium-to-fast growing; many varieties have stunning red fall color; prefers moist soil and tolerates wet feet. Recommended cultivars: 'Autumn Blaze', 'Morgan', 'October Glory', 'Red Sunset'. 38lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

River Birch (*Betula nigra*) 40-70' Cinnamon-colored exfoliating bark; fast-grower; doesn't mind wet feet, or even periodic flooding; not drought-tolerant; resistant to bronze birch borer. Recommended cultivars 'Dura-Heat' for better heat tolerance & 'Heritage' as a multi stem tree

Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) 20-40' Versatile tree with orange fall color. Tolerates a wide range of soil and light conditions.

Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) 60-75' A magnificent native tree, with foliage that turns yellow, orange and red in the fall. They are also very sensitive to salt and should not be planted near the street or along a driveway for that reason. Despite these caveats, they are tremendously beautiful. Recommended cultivars: 'Adirondack', 'Commemoration', 'Legacy'. 44lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styracifolia*) 60-90' Large tree with glossy green five-pointed leaves that develop burgundy fall color. Can tolerate wet feet. 'Slender Silhouette' is very narrow.

Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) 75-100' Very large tree with striking white mottled bark; doesn't mind wet feet; susceptible to anthracnose, leafspot and numerous insect infestations.

Thornless Honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis*) 30-70' Open spreading crown; fast-growing; requires full sun; tolerates moist soil; salt-tolerant and generally very adaptable; yellow fall color. Recommended cultivars: 'Shademaster' or "Sunburst". 45lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) 70-120' Tall, fast-growing tree with yellow and orange tulip like flowers loved by early pollinators. Needs room to grow.

Understory Trees:

American Hophornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) 25-30' Slow-growing; tolerates shade; will not tolerate wet feet.

Carolina Silverbell: (*Halesia tetraptera*) 20-30' White bell-shaped flowers in pendulous clusters in April/early May; flowers emerge before or with the leaves; native understory tree so it tolerates shade and doesn't mind moist soil. Wide-spreading low-branched tree with a broad, rounded crown.

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) 15-25' Magenta buds open to pink flowers in early spring before the leaves appear; large heart-shaped leaves turn yellow in fall and are unique in the landscape; flat-topped form with spreading branches; tolerates shade but can also be in a sunny spot; doesn't mind moist soil. The cultivar 'Forest Pansy' has burgundy leaves and an orange-purple fall color.

Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) 12-20' Shade tolerant understory tree with white or pink flowers in spring. Fall color can be red and fruits are a favorite of birds. 49.7lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) 12-20' Fragrant white flowers in spring; wide spreading habit. This native is an understory tree, so it tolerates some shade and does well in moist soil – won't tolerate drought conditions.

Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*) 25-30' Slow-growing; tolerates shade and wet feet. 47lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) 15-20' Small tree with short trunk and spreading branches; large foliage has a tropical look; small purple flowers in May just as the tree begins to leaf out (hard to notice unless you're looking); edible fruit 2-5" long with a custard-like consistency and extremely rich in anti-oxidants. Will grow in full sun or moderate shade; doesn't mind wet feet. This native small tree is definitely underutilized – best transplanted as a small (3-6') container-grown tree; need to plant several different varieties for best fruit production. Will grow into a thicket and needs room to grow.

Rutgers Hybrid Dogwood 15-25' These are hybrids of the much-loved American dogwood that have been developed to be resistant to anthracnose, the disease that affects native dogwoods throughout the Northeast. The Rutgers hybrid dogwoods flower in spring a bit later than *C. florida* but earlier than *C. kousa*, and their habits are more open and less vase-shaped than *C. kousa*. Full sun to shade – these are edge-of-the-woodland trees that can light up the shade garden. 'Stellar Pink' has pink flowers; 'Ruth Ellen', 'Constellation' and 'Celestial' have white flowers, with 'Ruth Ellen' most resembling *C. florida*.

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier sp.*) 20-25' White flowers in spring, followed by reddish-purple berries beloved by birds; beautiful fall color; usually found as a multi-stemmed form; doesn't mind wet feet and tolerates shade.

Sourwood (*Oxydendron arboreum*) 20-30' Truly an all-season ornamental native tree, with drooping, fragrant white flowers borne on panicles in late June-early July and persisting for 3-4 weeks. Spectacular yellow red & purple fall color. Grayish-brown deeply furrowed bark. Pyramidal tree with rounded top and drooping branches. Full sun to part shade; doesn't like wet feet. 37lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Swamp Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*) 10-20' Short multi-stem tree. Can be evergreen in warmer winters. Fragrant white flowers in early summer. Can tolerate growing in wetter soils.

'Winter King' Hawthorne (*Crataegus viridis* 'Winter King') 20-30' The 'Winter King' cultivar has a lovely rounded habit with a dense, almost vase-shaped branching structure, creating a beautiful winter silhouette. White flowers in spring; large, bright red fruits ripening in Sept – Oct and persisting into winter. Purple and scarlet fall color. Thorns less prominent than the species – often absent. Needs full sun and doesn't tolerate wet feet.

Evergreen Trees:

American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) 20-30' Evergreen leaves with spiny teeth; slow-to-moderate grower; pyramidal growth habit when young, will become more wide-spreading with age; red berries; requires male and female for fruit set; tolerates shade (in fact is found in woodlands) but will have a much denser habit in full sun. Recommended cultivars: 'Cardinal', 'Jersey Delight', 'Jersey Knight' (male), 'Canary' has yellow berries.

Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) 30-60' Stout, rigid, sharp blue needles borne all around the stems; a relatively slow-grower with a formal pyramidal habit. Native to the western US, the species has green inner needles with only the most recent growth being blue. The purely blue-needled variants are prized as specimens. Needs full sun for needles to remain blue. Recommended cultivars: 'Fat Albert' (more compact) and 'Hoopsii' are the bluest. Also comes in weeping forms and dwarf forms.

Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) 15-30' Needles are a light blue color and female trees will develop blue cones. Upright and narrow growth habit. Tolerates poor, dry soils and deer.

White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) 50-80' Long, green needles are soft to the touch; fast-grower; has a pyramidal habit when young but becomes much more horizontally wide-spreading as it matures. White pine will lose its bottom branches as it grows, so even if it attains a height of 70' in 25

years, it won't be functioning as a screen at ground/yard/patio level. Branches are susceptible to breaking in wind storms. Can tolerate some shade. 25lb/cubic ft for carbon sequestration.

Carbon sequestration values based on dry wood weight of individual species

What To Look For In A New Tree

Trees are sold as bareroot, container grown or balled & burlap.

Bareroot: Typically young trees the size of a small branch. Look for a straight stem free of scratches injuries to the bark. Check for dead or broken branches along the stem. Check the roots for broken or rotten roots. Trees can be stored in damp soil or mulch before planting.

Container Grown: Tree grown in containers can be very small to quite large. Look for a straight stem free of scratches and injuries to the bark. The tip of the tree should be obvious. Avoid a tree with multiple branches at the top of the tree. In a multi stem tree see that the stems are not growing against one another. Check for dead or broken branches. After lifting the root ball out of the container you can loosen the roots so that they are not growing around the root ball. If the root ball is very dense you can cut away some of the smallest roots. Identify the trunk flare where the stem meets the roots so that it can be planted at grade.

Balled & Burlap: Trees are typically large with a heavy root ball. Look for a straight stem free of scratches and injuries to the bark. The tip of the tree should be obvious. Avoid a tree with multiple branches at the top of the tree. In a multi stem tree see that the stems are not growing against one another. Check for dead or broken branches. Remove the top of 1/3-1/2 of wire basket at planting. Remove the burlap at the top of the root ball and cut away as much as possible. Remove enough soil from the top of the root ball so that you can see the trunk flare where the stem meets the roots so it can be planted at grade.