

Tree Species Guide 2024-2025

Use this list as a guide when selecting trees for your project. Some flexibility is allowed with tree varieties and cultivars, but dwarf and weeping trees are not acceptable. If you would like to plant trees not on the list, please work with your Trees Forever field coordinator to discuss those and include that conversation in your application narrative. Note that not all tree species will thrive in all climates. It is important for you, the applicant, to know the zone and soil requirements of the trees you select to ensure that your planting will be successful in creating a lasting impact for many years to come.

Shade Trees	
Aspen, Quaking ¹	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
Beech, American ¹	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
Birch, River ¹	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Blackgum, Black Tupelo ¹	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Buckeye, Ohio ¹	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>
Cherry, Black ¹	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Catalpa, Northern ¹	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
Elm, American ¹	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
Hackberry ¹	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Sugarberry ¹	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>
Hickory, Shagbark ¹	<i>Carya ovata</i>
Honeylocust, Thornless ¹	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>
Horse Chestnut ¹	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
Ironwood (American Hophornbeam) ¹	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Katsuratree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>
Kentucky Coffeetree ¹	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>
Linden, Littleleaf	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
Linden, American (Basswood) ¹	<i>Tilia americana</i>
Linden, Silver	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>
Magnolia, Cucumbertree ¹	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>
Oak, Black ¹	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Oak, Bur ¹	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Oak, Chinkapin ¹	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>
Oak, Hill's/Northern Pin ¹	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>
Oak, Northern Red ¹	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Oak, Scarlet ¹	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Oak, Shingle ¹	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
Oak, Shumard	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>
Oak, Swamp White ¹	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
Oak, White ¹	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Osage Orange ¹	<i>Maclura pomifera</i> (male, thornless)
Sassafras ¹	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
Sweetgum ¹	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
Sycamore ¹	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerfolia</i>
Tuliptree ¹	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Yellowwood ¹	<i>Cladrastis kentuckea</i>

¹ These trees are native to the Midwest.

*These trees are deciduous conifers and will drop their needles in the fall.

Low-growing Trees	
American Hornbeam ¹ (Musclewood, Blue Beech)	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Crabapple	<i>Malus spp.</i>
Dogwood, Pagoda ¹	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>
Eastern Redbud ¹	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Hawthorn, Thornless ¹	<i>Crataegus crusgalli</i> var. <i>inermis</i>
Japanese Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>
Magnolia	<i>Magnolia spp.</i>
Plum, American ¹	<i>Prunus americana</i>
Serviceberry ¹	<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>
Viburnum, Nannyberry ¹	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
Viburnum, Blackhaw ¹	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>
Witch Hazel ¹	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>

Edible Fruit Trees	
Apple, Cherry, etc.	<i>Malus spp.</i> , <i>Prunus spp.</i> etc.

Conifers	
Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
Bald Cypress ^{1*}	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
Cedar, Eastern Red ¹	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Dawn Redwood*	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>
Eastern Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>
Fir, Balsam ¹	<i>Abies balsamea</i>
Fir, Canaan	<i>Abies balsamea</i> var. <i>phanerolepis</i>
Fir, Concolor, White	<i>Abies concolor</i>
Fir, Frasier	<i>Abies fraseri</i>
Larch, European*	<i>Larix decidua</i>
Pine, Swiss Stone	<i>Pinus cembra</i>
Pine, Korean	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>
Pine, Red or Norway	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>
Pine, White ¹	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Spruce, Norway	<i>Picea abies</i>
Spruce, Serbian	<i>Picea omorika</i>

Prohibited Species	
Maple, Hybrid/Freeman	<i>Acer freemanii</i>
Maple, Amur	<i>Acer ginnala</i>
Maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>
Spruce, Blue	<i>Picea pungens</i>
Callery/Ornamental Pear	<i>Pyrus spp.</i>