

VERMONT TREE SELECTION GUIDE



PLANT LIVE GROW

Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program

part of the **Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation**

in partnership with the **University of Vermont Extension**

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Introduction

Are you getting ready to plant a tree or maybe several trees? Whether you are planning to plant on your own lawn, in a community park, along a street, or in a tree pit, careful tree selection is essential to the tree's long-term success. We have all heard time and time again to plant "the right tree in the right place". This Tree Selection Guide for Vermont was developed just for this purpose- to help you match trees to sites and achieve lasting shade.

To use this guide, you should first consider four questions that will help you critically evaluate the planting purpose, the site, future needs, and desires. Begin by reviewing the 'Questions to Consider when Planting Trees' (at right), then fill in the 'Tree Selection Worksheet' on page 9. The completed worksheet can then be compared to the tree list and lead you to selecting the right tree(s) for the right place(s).

In addition to this printed version of the tree guide, we offer an online searchable database that allows you the flexibility to filter the tree guide's information for easier tree selection. The searchable database can be accessed from our website, vtcommunityforestry.org.

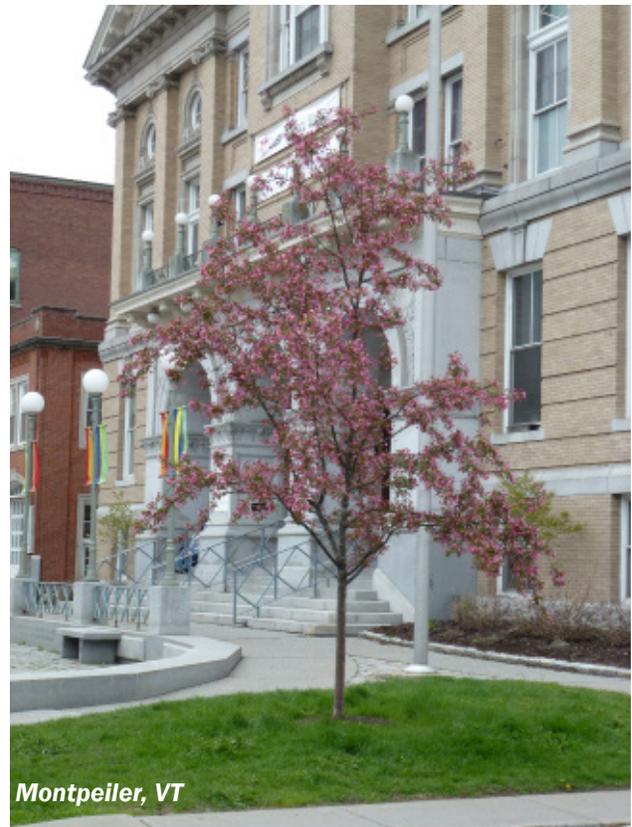
RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE

When we plant trees, they are often located in sites that are much less suitable than native forests for tree growth. Trees within developed communities are often exposed to human-caused stresses such as air pollution, elevated temperatures, compacted soils, and confined spaces. Because healthy community trees are the foundation of healthy forests, proper selection of tree species and planting site is crucial. Careful planning should ensure that the "right tree" is established in the "right place".

Consider the following four questions in order to establish trees for long-term growth and health:

Questions to Consider when Planting Trees:

- What is the purpose and use of the planting?
- What are the site conditions above and below ground?
- What type of maintenance will be required?
- What is the best tree species for long-term success?



Montpelier, VT

Introduction

PURPOSE OF PLANTING

Tree species and varieties vary tremendously in the services and benefits they can provide. To achieve desired outcomes, it is necessary to identify the purpose(s) of the planting. For example, specific tree species and varieties can be chosen for one or more of the following outcomes:

Economic Advantages

- Increase property values
- Encourage patronage to downtown retail and tourism
- Reduce energy costs

Social Benefits

- Instill community pride
- Provide a quiet, peaceful environment
- Offer outdoor recreation such as bird watching

Aesthetics

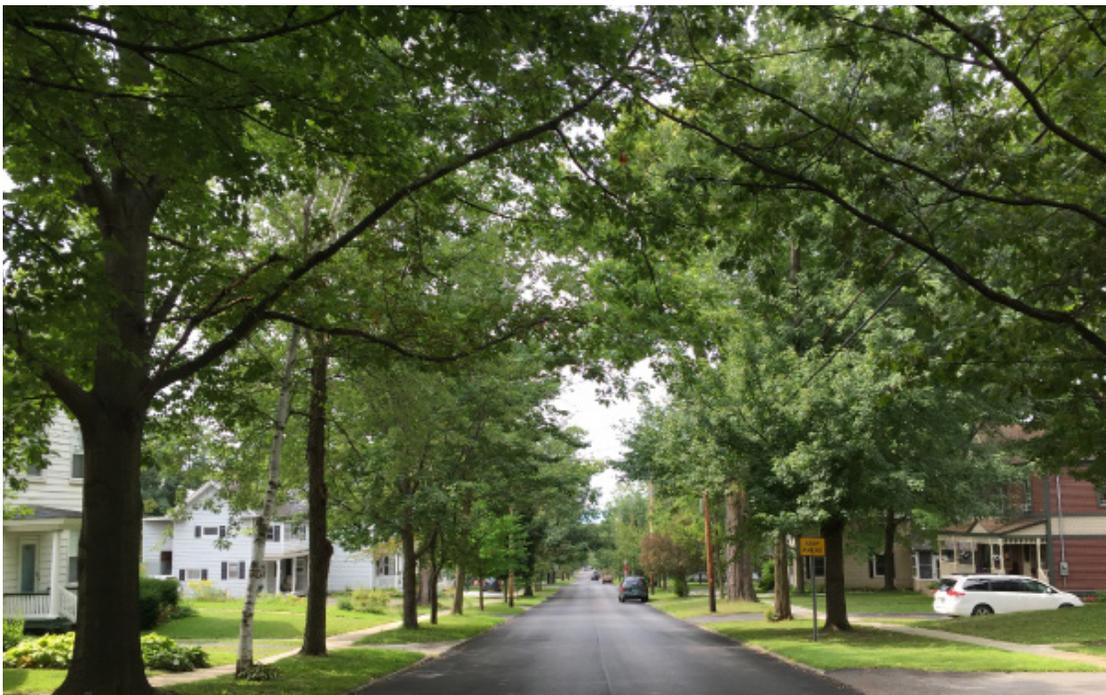
- Provide color, flowers, or fruit
- Compliment a building or beautify a street, park, home, institution, or neighborhood

Environmental Improvement

- Reduce soil erosion and manage stormwater
- Improve air and water quality
- Offer shade in the summer and reduce winds in the winter
- Provide wildlife habitat and food
- Reduce noise and create buffers
- Increase plant diversity
- Combat climate change

Despite the numerous advantages that trees provide, there are also potential problems that must be considered. Trees can contribute to:

- Litter with messy fruit, branches, or large leaves
- Damage to pavement and utilities
- Costs for establishment, maintenance, and removal



This planting meets several intended purposes: screening, traffic calming, gateway, fall color, and shade in St. Albans, Vermont.

Site Conditions

BELOW GROUND CONDITIONS

Roughly 80 percent of urban tree health problems originate from conditions below ground. A tree is supported both structurally and nutritionally by its roots. Any limitations placed on them will result, directly or indirectly, in future health problems.

Soil texture, defined by the soil's relative amounts of sand, silt, and clay, influences moisture holding capacity, drainage rate, and nutrient availability. Clay soils retain moisture and nutrients but are prone to compaction. Sandy soils drain well and resist compaction, but can be

Understanding a site's limitations and potentials is necessary for successful plantings and involves analyzing above and below ground conditions.

nutrient poor and moisture deficient. Soil texture can be approximately evaluated by rubbing moistened soil between your fingers. Sandy soils feel gritty, clay soils feel smooth, and loam soils are a combination of both gritty and smooth.

Soil structure is determined by the arrangement of soil particles (sand, silt, and clay) and their associated pore spaces. Land development and use often degrades soil by increasing compaction, adding pollutants, excavating and removing topsoil, and fostering runoff and erosion. Accordingly, an initial soil assessment and use of best management practices for soil conservation is necessary for a successful community forestry program. The dominant soil constraint in urban areas is soil compaction, which destroys the soil structure by reducing pore spaces needed for air, water, and roots. Depending upon the degree of compaction, plant health and survival can be severely reduced. Although plant species vary in tolerance, no plant is immune to the negative impacts of severely compacted soils. The addition of soil amendments, selecting more tolerant species, and tillage or aeration are some options. The

measurement of the soil's bulk density - the weight of the dry soil per unit volume - is an alternative useful measurement; as bulk density increases, compaction increases. Another helpful indicator of soil health is the presence or absence of earthworms. In more favorable soil conditions, earthworms will be plentiful throughout the soil's upper horizon.

Drainage is the soil's ability to intercept and remove surface or groundwater and is influenced by soil texture and structure. Clay soils are easily compacted and often lack pore spaces to allow water to drain freely, limiting the availability of oxygen to the roots. Sandy soils with large pores hold little water and are often too dry for many trees. Soil compaction and obstacles such as bedrock and other impermeable objects beneath the soil can also inhibit drainage. To determine your site's drainage, observe the site, especially after a rain event. Is the water draining or is it standing on the surface? A day or so after a rain event, dig into the soil: is it wet or dry? If you want a more accurate drainage rate (fast, moderate, slow), dig a hole one foot deep and fill it with water. Fast drains more than 6 inches in an hour; moderate drains 1 – 6 inches per hour, and slow less than 6 inches per hour. The addition of organic matter or choosing drought tolerant species is recommended for dry soils; managing rain water and choosing species that can tolerate intermittent flooding is recommended for wet soils.

Soil pH and plant nutrients are important determinants of a site's suitability for plant growth. The successful growth of most plants requires 10 to 14 essential nutrients in an appropriate balance. Although plants may tolerate extreme conditions, symptoms of nutrient deficiencies or toxicities affect the quality of the foliage, rate of growth, and susceptibility to pests and diseases. The availability of these elements is affected by soil pH and organic matter content. Most plants prefer soils within a pH range of 5.5-7.0. Soils in Vermont tend to be acidic, although areas surrounded by sidewalks, foundations, and roads tend to have higher alkalinity, with pH above 7.5 due to limestone-based components.

Site Conditions

Soil fertility, pH, and organic matter can be evaluated using standard soil tests and is recommended before planting. Soil testing is available through the University of Vermont’s Soil Testing Lab for a nominal charge per sample. Materials and instructions needed for sampling soils can be obtained at University of Vermont Extension offices located across the state.

For more information, contact:

UVM Agricultural and Environmental Testing Lab
 Jeffords Hall, Room 262; 63 Carrigan Dr.
 Burlington, VT 05405
phone: 802-656-3030; **email:** Agtesting@uvm.edu
website: uvm.edu/pss/ag_testing/

Road salt is frequently used to de-ice roads and sidewalks during winter months. The use of salt, most commonly sodium chloride (NaCl), can reduce water absorption, nutrient uptake, root growth, and long-term plant growth. Therefore, locations that will receive frequent salting should be noted and salt tolerant plants should be planted. Salt damage to soils is usually most severe within 25 ft. of a road. Planting tolerant species further away from or above the grade of the roadway can help reduce problems associated with de-icing salts. Pay close attention to the typical speed of the traffic moving adjacent to the planting site. Faster moving traffic increases the area of salt spray and may require you to plant further from the road. Plants in these areas near roads are also often exposed to air pollutants, such as ozone, that can also cause stress. If high salts are a problem at the site, extensive watering to leach the salts out of the soil can help as long as the soil is well-drained.

Soil volume is the measure of soil available for root growth. Inadequate rooting space will limit water availability, nutrient uptake, and oxygen exchange necessary for successful plant growth. Common barriers to rooting space include sidewalks, roads, underground obstacles, and containers.

Heavily compacted soils can limit available soil volume and be an obstacle for expanding tree roots. Although some species may be more tolerant of this, it is a good idea to include only uncompacted soils in your determination of available rooting space or usable soil volume. When determining available soil volume, take into account that tree roots grow near the surface, primarily in the top 2 to 3 feet of soil. For this reason soil below 3 feet should not be considered in soil volume calculations.

In this guide we list the recommended soil volume for each species. These recommendations are under ideal circumstances, and in many cases you will be forced to plant in much tighter areas. Compensating for this by planting in longer, narrow strips is generally acceptable; however be certain the root system can spread far enough in all directions to keep the tree windfirm when fully grown.

Where soil volumes are restricted, select smaller species, those known to have limited root systems, or those that are especially heat and drought tolerant. The use of engineered soils, such as Structural Soil® or Silva Cells, can be incorporated to increase soil volume available for tree roots and meet load-bearing requirements for structurally sound pavement installation.

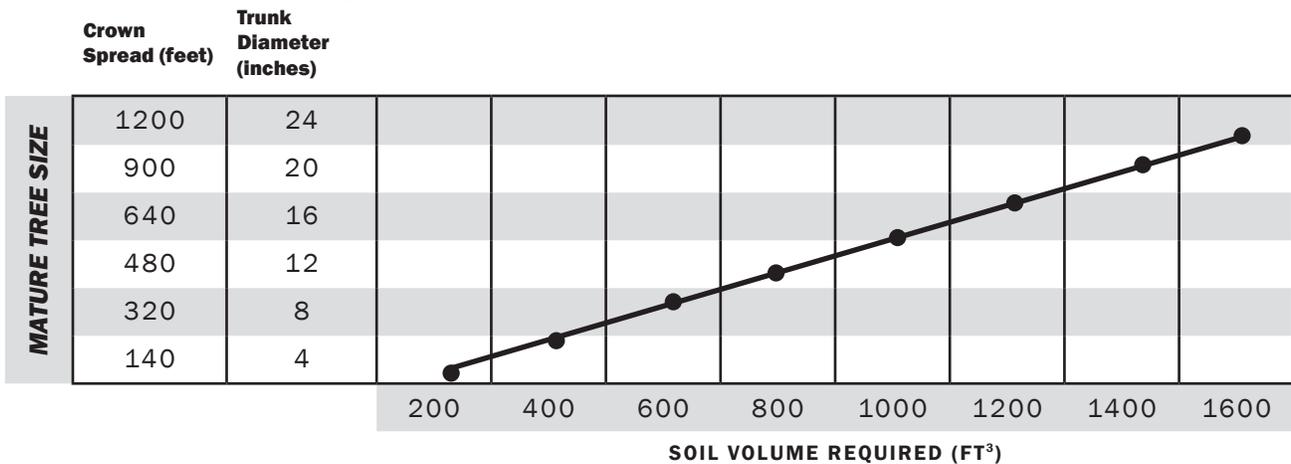


Figure 1. Soil volume & ultimate tree size relationship. James Urban, Urban Trees + Soils, Annapolis, MD

Site Conditions

ABOVE GROUND CONDITIONS

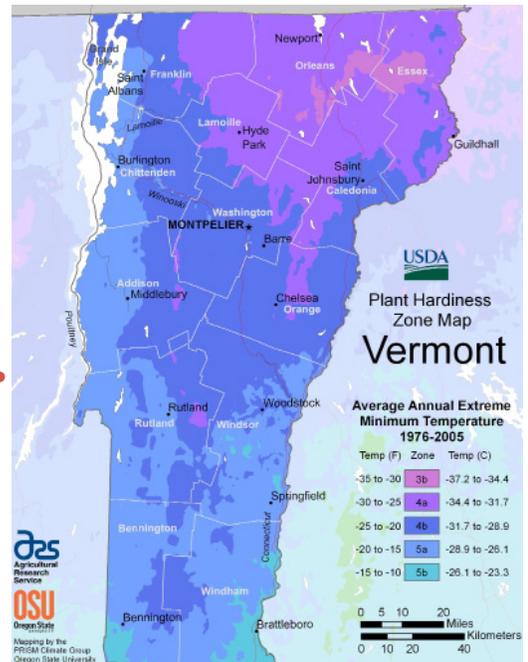
Just as trees require a healthy root system, they need a healthy stem and crown. The ability of a tree's crown to capture sunlight and manufacture food for the tree dictates the overall success of that tree, as long as the roots are able to support the crown with water and nutrients. Once you have identified all potential limitations below ground, look at the above ground conditions to make sure that nothing will prevent your trees from developing full, healthy crowns.

Exposure is important as plants differ in their adaptations to temperature and ability to withstand cold. Plant Hardiness Zones have been developed by the USDA to assist in selecting plants adapted to the climate of a particular region. Plant rating for hardiness zone is based on a plant's ability to survive over winter at a specified average minimum winter temperature. The lower the temperature, the lower the zone number. Vermont's USDA hardiness zones ranges from 5b – 3b. Furthermore, it is important to consider that microclimates exist within communities and are influenced by gray infrastructure, different exposure to light (natural or artificial), wind exposure, precipitation patterns, and temperature extremes.

Overhead space is the available space above the ground to accommodate plant growth. Planting plans should recognize the size and shape of the tree throughout its life, and allow enough overhead space for the mature crown size. Major problems and costs caused by trees planted too close to buildings, power lines, streetlights, and traffic signs can be avoided by selecting species with traits that will fit the space and will minimize underground and above ground space disruptions and safety concerns. To avoid overhead utility conflicts, select small trees with a maximum mature height of 25 ft. for locations under overhead power lines, medium trees with a maximum height of 45 ft. for locations 20 – 40 ft. away, and larger trees for locations greater than 40 ft. away. Other street tree standards include locating trees at least 5 ft. from water mains, gas boxes, and inlets or manholes, 10 ft. from fire hydrants, and 15 ft. from street lights.

Hardiness Zone Map

Zone 3 -30° F to -40° F | **Zone 4** -20° F to -30° F
Zone 5 -10° F to -20° F

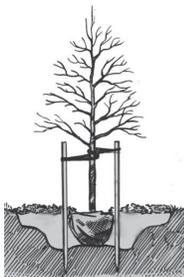


Legal concerns Always check on ownership or easement locations as well as historical or landmark status that may prohibit you from planting in a certain area. If planting along residential roads, know the extent of the public-right-of-way. Contact your town planning office and/or public works department for local right-of-way boundaries. Along state roads, refer to the Agency of Transportation's Street Tree Policy and contact the VTrans permitting office for further guidance on planting trees within the State's right-of-way. Check local ordinances that may prohibit the planting of certain species, such as those listed on the Vermont Invasive Species Watch List.

Considerations

TREE PLANTING

Purchasing a tree is a lifelong investment. How well this investment grows depends on the type of tree selected, the planting location, and the care given. Here are 10 steps to successful tree planting.



1. Move the tree properly. Young trees are not 2 x 4's; avoid carrying trees solely by their trunks, unless bare root. Wrap canopy in burlap or cloth to prevent wind damage during transport.

2. Remove trunk and branch dressing and packaging. Leave root packaging in place. Ensure string or other materials are removed from crown.

3. Find the main root system and remove excess soil. Remove soil from the top of the root ball until the top of the main root system -the anchoring roots- is exposed. There should be several roots at least as big around as a pencil extending in opposite directions from the trunk. You may have to remove several inches of soil. **TIP:** Probe the soil ball with a wire, kabob skewer, or screwdriver to find the roots and estimate how much soil to remove.

4. Determine how deep and wide to dig. Measure the height of the remaining root ball. This is exactly how deep you should dig the hole. Measure the approximate width of the root ball or root system. Multiply this by 2 or, if your soil is hard (clay or compacted), by 3. This is how wide you should dig the hole.

5. Dig a hole. Do not put a \$100 tree in a \$10 hole. The dimensions of the hole are very important. Dig the hole ONLY as deep as the root system.

6. Place the tree in the hole. If the tree has a heavy root ball, roll or slide it into the hole.

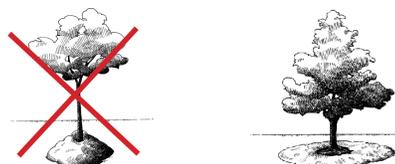
7. Remove root packaging. B&B trees: Cut, peel back, and remove as much of the wire basket and burlap as possible. **TIP:** Cut the bottom of the wire basket off before placing it in the hole; then you can easily cut up the sides of the basket and peel it away.

Container trees: lay the root ball in the hole and carefully remove the container from the roots. Break up any pot-bound, circling roots.

8. Backfill with the same soil. Make sure the trunk is straight by levering the root ball with a shovel. Do not use excessive force. Put the original soil back in the hole, breaking up large clods, and working it in with your hands or a shovel. **TIP:** Do not amend the soil unless you are amending a larger area, as this could prevent the roots from leaving the planting hole and could encourage circling roots.

9. Irrigate. Water the root ball and entire planting area; deep, very slow infiltration is best.

10. Mulch. Put a 2-4 inch layer of organic mulch over the planting area. Pull mulch away from the trunk so none touches the bark. Replenish mulch to maintain this depth, only as needed. There should never be more than 4 inches of mulch over the roots; too much can prevent the roots from accessing necessary oxygen.



Water is critical during the first three years after planting. Too little or too much can kill a tree. It is difficult to prescribe a certain amount of water to apply to a tree. Different trees, soils, and weather conditions will affect the amount and frequency needed. As a general guide, ten gallons of water should slowly be applied once or twice a week if rainfall is insufficient.

Tips:

- Water where the roots are. The first year they are right around the root ball. Expand the watering area as the tree and roots grow.
- Watering devices such as Tregators® or a five gallon bucket with tiny holes (1/8 inch) to release water slowly, soaking the soil while minimizing surface runoff.
- Use less frequent but more thorough watering sessions, rather than frequent shallow watering.

Considerations

TREE MAINTENANCE

Maintenance needs and arboriculture practices for urban forests depend on their function, site condition, species, and age compositions. Some trees will require intensive maintenance; considering the available capacity and maintenance needs will aid in effective tree species selection. The advantages and disadvantages of tree species should be weighed against each other in the selection process. Regardless of species selected, all plantings require maintenance during the early stages of establishment, most importantly watering. Investing in tree care and maintenance, especially in the establishment years, will result in healthy long-lived trees.

Properly pruned trees are not only more aesthetically pleasing, but also stronger. Structurally pruning young trees can significantly reduce the likelihood of limb or trunk failure as the tree matures. This means a longer life span for the tree and a better return on the investment. Before you prune, always have an objective in mind. Consider the following reasons to prune your tree:

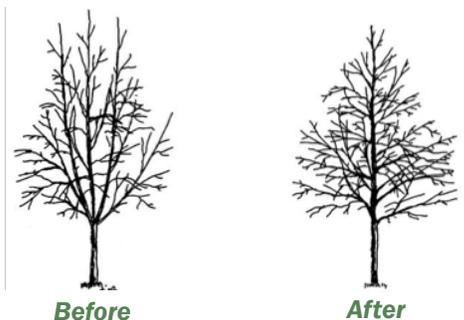
Safety: Remove branches that could fall and cause injury or interfere with utility lines, roads, and infrastructure.

Health: Remove diseased or insect-infected wood, improve structure, or reduce likelihood of damage during storms.

Fruit Production: Increase light and air circulation.

Appearance: Control plant size and form, enhance views.

*Pruning is a specialized skill. If you are uncertain about the task, hire a Certified Arborist. Find an arborist at: treesaregood.org/findanarborist



Whether you are pruning to establish good form and branch structure on a young tree or pruning to maintain a healthy mature tree, pruning is a long-term commitment. Here are some steps to guide you as your tree grows:

Pruning three years after planting

- Select a central leader (single trunk) and remove or shorten co-dominant leaders or competing leaders.
- Promote strong branch unions with the main stem structure. Look for “U” shaped unions and the branch bark ridge. Remove or reduce branches with weak or a “V” shaped union.

Pruning as the tree grows

- Thin the crown. Remove rubbing branches and continue to promote one central leader. Reduce or remove competing leaders. Never remove more than 25% of the crown in a given growing season.
- Raise the crown to provide clearance for sidewalks, vehicles, and buildings. Check local ordinances for minimum branch height mandates.
- Reduce the height and spread of the crown as necessary. Bring the branch back to a lateral branch no less than 1/3 the size of the stem removed.

TREE SPECIES SELECTION

Based on the purpose, site conditions, and maintenance requirements, develop a set of criteria that will be used to select the most suitable plants. Certain criteria should hold more weight than others. Choose plants based on their ability to withstand environment conditions, prevention of infrastructure conflicts, and for the long-term sustainability of the urban forest. Rarely will you find the perfect tree that will fit an entire list of selected criteria, yet understanding the purpose and criteria of the planting can avoid many unforeseen pitfalls. Green infrastructure is the only infrastructure that will increase in value over time if the “right tree” is put in the “right place”.

Considerations

SPECIES DIVERSITY

Maintaining a high level of species diversity in our urban ecosystems is important. Besides providing the aesthetic appeal of a variety of shapes and sizes along streets or in town greens and parks, increasing tree species diversity can also help safeguard against species-specific insect or disease outbreaks. Simply selecting the right tree for every site should in itself create diversity, yet we often rely far too heavily on one seemingly ideal species, as was the case with the American elm in the 19th and 20th centuries.

It is important to recognize that species diversity is not only a function of how many species are present, but also depends on the proportion of each species relative to others and their overall spatial and age-class distribution. In other words, planting a single tree of one species for every hundred trees of another species scarcely improves diversity. Similarly, diversity is only improved significantly if all species are growing together, intermingled over an entire area as opposed to having each species in a separate area. Maintaining a predetermined level of diversity, such as specifying that no one genus should comprise more than 10 percent of the community tree population, is a good way to help prevent some of these situations from occurring.

PEST AWARENESS

Two potential invasive pests are threatening Vermont's urban trees. The emerald ash borer has already killed millions of ash trees across North America. Ash trees are a popular urban tree for its tolerance to tough growing conditions and have historically been planted throughout Vermont communities. As of 2019, we do not recommend planting ash trees.

Asian long-horned beetle has a larger host species range and feeds on a variety of trees including maple, elm, horsechestnut, ash, birch, poplar, and many more. If any trees in the landscape are showing signs of infestation, take action by learning more and calling for assistance.

For more information on Vermont invasive tree pests or to report a suspect invasive pest, visit VTinvasives.org

POTENTIALLY INVASIVE TREES

We have been planting non-native trees in the landscape for hundreds of years and have enjoyed the diversity and beauty they bring. However, we are now more aware of a few that have aggressive growth habits that result in their invasion into wild, unmanaged areas such as wetlands and woodlands. Once established, these invasive exotic trees can significantly disrupt habitats. Thus, we all need to be aware of these few species and avoid or use caution when planting.

For this publication, we have removed any species that appears on the 'Invasive Species Watch List' produced by the Vermont Invasive Exotic Plant Council. These non-native plants have the potential to become invasive in Vermont based on their behavior in other northeastern states. Tree species of interest on this list include: amur maple (*Acer ginnala*), Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), and black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*).

There are a few other non-native tree species commonly used in the landscape that have begun to cause some concern of their potential to become invasive. Currently, these species are not on the Vermont quarantine or watch list, but we should keep a close eye on them and we advise not planting them near natural settings where they could invade. These species include: Catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*), Goldenrain Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*), amur corktree (*Phellodendron amurense*), callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), and Japanese tree lilac (*Syringa reticulata*).

Tree Selection Worksheet

Complete the following worksheet to help identify appropriate trees for the site.

Tree Site & Space

Site location/Description: _____

Desired mature height: _____ Desired mature spread: _____

Desired Tree Characteristics

Form

-  Spreading  Columnar  Round
-  Upright Oval  Pyramidal  Vase

Hardiness Zone

- 5b (-10° to -15°) 5a (-15° to -20°) 4b (-20° to -25°) 4a (-25° to -30°) 3b (-30° to -35°)

Does Well In

- Drought Poor Drainage Alkaline Soil Salt Shade Air Pollution

Features of Interest

-  Flowers  Fruits  Wildlife  Fall Foliage  Winter Interest
-  Native to VT  Evergreen  Fits Under Power Lines

Available Soil Volume

Small

Planting sites with limited soil volume, such as narrow greenbelts and pits less than 6 feet wide. Depths should be at least 3 feet. Planting should not occur in less than 4 by 4 foot spaces.

Medium

Planting sites with an intermediate amount of soil volume. Greenbelts greater than 6 feet wide, but still limited in the amount of below ground growing space.

Large

Planting sites that have large soil volume, such as parks and open space.

Note: On the tree species list, the smallest adequate soil volume is listed.

Key to Tree Species List

Form Indicates the natural shape of the tree.



Tolerances Indicates the species' ability to withstand drought, poor drainage, alkaline soil, salt, air pollution, and shade.



Mature Height The total height of a typical species at maturity.

Crown Spread The total width of a typical species' crown at maturity.

Soil Volume Lists the recommended soil volume for the species/cultivar assuming a square area that is 3 feet deep (e.g. 25' corresponds to a volume of 25'x25'x3'). Rooting space is calculated by taking half of a tree's mature crown spread.

Planting Area

Small: Indicates planting sites with limited soil volume, such as narrow greenbelts and pits less than 6 feet wide. Depths should be 3 feet. Planting should not occur in less than 4 by 4 foot spaces.

Medium: Indicates planting sites with an intermediate amount of soil volume. Greenbelts greater than 6 feet wide, but still limited in the amount of below ground growing space.

Large: Indicates planting sites that have large amounts of soil volume, such as parks and open space.

Hardiness The lowest zone rating for each species.

- 3b** -30° to -35°
- 4a** -25° to -30°
- 4b** -20° to -25°
- 5a** -15° to -20°
- 5b** -10° to -15°

Limitations Problems you might encounter with a specific tree planted in Vermont.

1. Weak wood and/or branch structure, making it susceptible to breakage during ice or snow accumulation and strong winds.
2. Fruit and/or leaves can be a litter issue.
3. Sensitive to insect/disease pests.
4. Limited availability, making it difficult to locate at local nurseries.
5. Prone to excessive sucker growth from roots or lower trunk and may require regular pruning.
6. Fall dig hazard, indicating that trees should be planted only during the spring.

Features Indicates which species and cultivars have the following features:

Flower: Indicates which species have notable flowers.

Fruit: Indicates which species have notable fruits.

Fall Foliage: Indicates which species have notable fall foliage.

Winter Interest: Indicates which species have notable winter interest (bark, branch structure).

Native to Vermont: Indicates which species are inherent and original to Vermont.

Under Power Lines: Indicates which species can be planted underneath power lines (<25 ft. in height).

Invasive Alert: Indicates species that should be kept under cultivation & not planted in a wild environment.

Evergreen: Indicates which species have evergreen leaves or needles.

Wildlife: Refers to whether a tree's fruit has wildlife value.

Key to Scientific Names

Common Name

Scientific Name

Amur corktree	<i>Phellodendron</i>
Apple	<i>Malus</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus</i>
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium</i>
Beech	<i>Fagus</i>
Birch	<i>Betula</i>
Black gum, Tupelo	<i>Nyssa</i>
Buckeye, horeschestnut	<i>Aesculus</i>
Cedar	<i>Thuja</i>
Cherry	<i>Prunus</i>
Dawn redwood	<i>Metasequoia</i>
Dogwood	<i>Cornus</i>
Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>
Filbert, Hazel	<i>Corylus</i>
Fir	<i>Abies</i>
Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i>
Hemlock	<i>Tsuga</i>
Hickory	<i>Carya</i>
Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia</i>

Common Name

Scientific Name

Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya</i>
Katsura	<i>Cercidiphyllum</i>
Kentucky coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus</i>
Lilac	<i>Syringa</i>
Linden	<i>Tilia</i>
Maple	<i>Acer</i>
Musclewood, Ironwood	<i>Carpinus</i>
Oak	<i>Quercus</i>
Pear	<i>Pyrus</i>
Pine	<i>Pinus</i>
Redbud	<i>Cercis</i>
Shadbush, Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i>
Silverbell	<i>Halesia</i>
Spruce	<i>Picea</i>
Sycamore, Planetree	<i>Plantanus</i>
Walnut	<i>Juglans</i>
Witchhazel	<i>Hamamelis</i>
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis</i>

BUYING A TREE

Purchasing a tree is an investment. Like buying a car, you'll want to inspect the trees at the nursery to ensure you are purchasing the highest quality. The quality of the planting stock you purchase is one of the most important factors when it comes to survival and long-term health of young trees. High quality trees will establish themselves more quickly than less healthy trees and require less pruning and maintenance in subsequent years.

Checklist for purchasing a tree

- Purchase stock from a reputable nursery. For a list of nurseries affiliated with GreenWorks - the Vermont Nursery and Landscape Association: greenworksvermont.org/members/.
- Select the appropriate stock for your planting needs: Bare root, container, or balled and burlapped (B&B).
- Inspect the roots and the root collar and ensure there are no girdling/circling roots.
- Inspect the trunk for signs of damage or weakness in the bark.
- Inspect the crown for an obvious central leader.

Resources for More Information

PUBLICATIONS

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- Dirr, Michael A., 2009. Manual of Woody Landscape Plants—Their Identification Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses. Stipes Publishing Company. Champaign, IL.
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- Pellet, Norman E. and Mark Starrett. 2002. Landscape Plants for Vermont. The University of Vermont Extension. Burlington, VT. www.uvm.edu/mastergardener/LPV2002/LPV.htm
- Watson, Gary W. and E. B. Himelick. 1997. Principles and Practice of Planting Trees and Shrubs. International Society of Arboriculture. Savoy, IL.

ONLINE

- Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program: vtcommunityforestry.org
- Green Works: Vermont Nursery and Landscape Association: greenworksvt.org
- Urban Horticulture Institute, Cornell University: hort.cornell.edu/uhi/index.html
- USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program: fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf

SEARCHABLE TREE DATABASES

- Vermont Tree Selection Guide: vtcommunityforestry.org
- Northern Trees: lyra.ifas.ufl.edu/NorthernTrees/
- UConn Plant Database: hort.uconn.edu

TREE CARE INFORMATION

- International Society of Arboriculture: treesaregood.com

SEARCHABLE URBAN FORESTRY & ARBORICULTURE RESOURCES

- Vibrant Cities Lab: vibrantcitieslab.com
- Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry: fs.usda.gov/naspf

TREE SPECIES LIST

Scientific Name	Cultivar	Common Name [Flower Color]	Form	Hardiness Zone	Mature Height	Crown Spread	Soil Volume	Planting Area	Tolerances						Limitations	Features
									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>Abies concolor</i>	—	White Fir		3a	50	25	15	L	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊	6	🌲❄️
Specimen tree. Most tolerant fir and good replacement for disease sensitive Colorado blue spruce.																
<i>Abies fraseri</i>	—	Fraser Fir		4a	40	25	15	L	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	6	🌲❄️
Specimen or accent tree. Avoid hot and dry conditions, and high pH.																
<i>Acer campestre</i>	—	Hedge Maple		5	30	30	15	S	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞		🍁❄️✂️
Possibly a zone 4. Extremely adaptable and tolerates severe pruning. Prune early for structure and may need to be limbed up for clearance. Slow grower. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>Acer x freemanii</i>	'Armstrong'	Freeman Maple		4a	60	20	20	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	1,6	🍁
Fastigate/columnar form. Cross between a red and silver maple. Fast grower, early structural pruning needed. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>A. x freemanii</i>	Autumn Blaze® 'Jeffersred'	Freeman Maple		4a	50	40	20	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	1,6	🍁
Cross between a red and silver maple. Fast grower, early structural pruning needed, concern over branch breakage as it ages. Excellent orange to red fall color. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>A. x freemanii</i>	'Sienna'	Freeman Maple		4a	40	40	20	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	1,6	🍁
Cross between a red and silver maple. Strong central leader for species, early structural pruning needed. Deep orange to red fall color. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>A. x freemanii</i>	'Red Pointe'	Freeman Maple		4a	45	30	20	L	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	1,6	🍁
Cross between a red (75%) and silver (25%) maple. Early structural pruning needed. Excellent fall red color and heat tolerance. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>Acer griseum</i>	'Ginzam' Gingerbread™	Paperbark Maple		5	25	25	13	S	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊	4,6	🍁❄️✂️
Specimen tree. Potentially zone 4 in protected sites. Trifoliate leaves and beautiful peeling bark. Finer bark and faster growth than species. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>Acer miyabei</i>	'Morton' State Street™	Miyabe Maple		4	40	40	20	S	😞	😞	😊	😞	😊	4	🍁❄️	
Specimen tree. More cold hardy alternative to A. Campestre. Corky bark. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	—	Red Maple		3	75	40	20	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	1,6	🍁🌿🐦
Fast grower and easy to transplant. Chlorosis can occur in alkaline soils. Somewhat weak wood, prune for structure. Thin bark can easily be damaged. Fall color and intensity varies. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>A. rubrum</i>	'Autumn Flame'	Red Maple		3b	50	30	20	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	1,6	🍁🌿🐦
Excellent and early red fall color that last longer than species. Notable for its round form when young. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>A. rubrum</i>	'Bowhall'	Red Maple		4	50	15	20	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	1,6	🍁🌿🐦
Upright form with broad columnar head. Yellow to red fall color. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																

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									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	'Baumani'	Horsechestnut (WHITE)		4a	75	70	35	L	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,3,6	⚙️ ❄️
Double white flowers and fruitless. Prune in spring, avoid extremely dry condition. Leaf scorch, leaf blotch and powdery mildew can be a problem. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	'JFS-Arb' Spring Flurry®	Downy Serviceberry (WHITE)		4	35	20	10	S	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊		⚙️ 🍎 🍁 🌿 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Good tree form. Orange fall color.																
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	'Snowcloud', 'Majestic'	Allegheny Serviceberry (WHITE)		4	25	15	10	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊		⚙️ 🍎 🍁 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Fastigiate/colmnar form. Scarlet fall color. Vigorous grower.																
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	'Trazam' Traditional®	Shadblow Serviceberry (WHITE)		3	30	20	10	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	5	⚙️ 🍎 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Strong central leader and good branch habit. Orange fall color. Heavy fruiting.																
<i>A. canadensis</i>	'Sprizam' Spring Glory®	Shadblow Serviceberry (WHITE)		3	12	10	10	S	😊	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	5	⚙️ 🍎 🍁 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress. Small compact form. Orange to yellow fall color.																
<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>	'Autumn Brilliance'	Apple Serviceberry (WHITE)		4a	25	25	13	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	3	⚙️ 🍎 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Red fall color.																
<i>A. grandiflora</i>	'Autumn Sunset'	Apple Serviceberry (WHITE)		4a	30	25	13	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	3	⚙️ 🍎 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Rich orange fall color. Strong central leader. Perhaps better drought tolerance.																
<i>A. grandiflora</i>	'Ballerina'	Apple Serviceberry (WHITE)		4a	20	15	13	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	3	⚙️ 🍎 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Shrub or small tree. Red fall color.																
<i>A. grandiflora</i>	'Princess Diana'	Apple Serviceberry (WHITE)		4a	25	15	13	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	3	⚙️ 🍎 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🌳 🐦
Not reliable under high stress conditions. Red fall color. Can be multi or single stemmed.																
<i>Betula nigra</i>	'Moonshine' Dura	River Birch		4a	45	35	18	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	❄️ 🌿
Exfoliating bark. Develops chlorosis in high pH. Leaf spot in wet years. Most adaptable birch.																
<i>B. nigra</i>	'Little King' Fow Valley®	River Birch		4a	15	15	10	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	❄️ 🌿 🌳
Exfoliating bark. Develops chlorosis in high pH. Leaf spot in wet years. Most adaptable birch. Small form.																
<i>B. nigra</i>	'Cully' Heritage®	River Birch		4a	50	35	18	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	❄️ 🌿
Exfoliating bark. Develops chlorosis in high pH. Leaf spot in wet years. Most adaptable birch.																
<i>B. nigra</i>	'Dickinson' Northern Tribute™	River Birch		3	40	35	18	S	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	❄️ 🌿
Exfoliating bark. Develops chlorosis in high pH. Leaf spot in wet years. Most adaptable birch.																

Scientific Name	Cultivar	Common Name [Flower Color]	Form	Hardiness Zone	Mature Height	Crown Spread	Soil Volume	Planting Area	Tolerances						Limitations	Features
									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>C. occidentalis x C. laevigata</i>	'Magnifica'	Magnifica Sugar Hackberry		5	50	40	25	M							1,6	  
Cross between sugar and common hackberry. Less hardy, but withstands drought, salt and compacted soil better.																
<i>Cercidphyllum japonicum</i>	—	Katsuratree		4b	60	35	18	M							1,6	 
Difficult to transplant, water is needed during establishment. Bark is light gray and flaky to slightly shaggy.																
<i>C. japonicum</i>	'Rotfuchs' 'Red Fox'	Katsuratree		4b	60	35	18	M							1,6	 
Difficult to transplant, water is needed during establishment. Red foliage and slower grower than species. Bark is light gray and flaky to slightly shaggy.																
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	—	Eastern Redbud (PINK)		4	25	25	13	S							1	   
Avoid wet soils. Suffers when stressed. Does best in a protected location.																
<i>C. canadensis</i>	'Alba'	Eastern Redbud (WHITE)		4b	25	25	13	S							1	   
Avoid wet soils. Suffers when stressed.																
<i>C. canadensis</i>	'Forest Pansy'	Eastern Redbud (ROSE-PURPLE)		5b	25	25	13	S							1	   
Avoid wet soils. Suffers when stressed. Purple foliage.																
<i>C. canadensis</i>	'Royal White'	Eastern Redbud (WHITE)		4	25	25	13	S							1	   
Avoid wet soils. Suffers when stressed. May be more cold hardy than 'Alba' the other white flowered form.																
<i>C. canadensis</i>	'Northern Strain'	Eastern Redbud (ROSE)		4	25	25	13	S							1	   
Avoid wet soils. Suffers when stressed. More cold hardy species.																
<i>Cladrastis kentukea (lutea)</i>	—	Yellowwood (WHITE)		4a	50	55	25	L							1,6	   
Structural pruning is necessary for poor branch attachment. Prune in summer to avoid bleeding.																
<i>Cornus florida</i>	—	Flowering Dogwood (WHITE)		5	25	25	13	S								    
Structural pruning is necessary for poor branch attachment. Prune in summer to avoid bleeding.																
<i>Cornus mas</i>	'Golden Glory'	Corneliancherry Dogwood (YELLOW)		4b	20	20	10	S							2,5	   
Can be pruned to raise crown for more tree like form and expose exfoliating bark. Relatively adaptable, but may slow to reestablish. Heavy bloomer, but may be less cold hardy.																
<i>C. mas</i>	'Redstone'	Corneliancherry Dogwood (YELLOW)		4b	25	20	10	S							2,5	   
Can be pruned to raise crown for more tree like form and expose exfoliating bark. Relatively adaptable, but may slow to reestablish. Heavy fruit set.																
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	—	Turkish Filbert		4	50	30	15	S							2	   
Tolerant of tough conditions, but will require watering for establishment.																

Scientific Name	Cultivar	Common Name [Flower Color]	Form	Hardiness Zone	Mature Height	Crown Spread	Soil Volume	Planting Area	Tolerances						Limitations	Features
									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i> <i>var. inermis</i>	'Cruzam' Crusader™	Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn (WHITE)		4a	25	25	13	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🌿 🦅 🦉
Thornless cultivar.																
<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	'Crimson Cloud'	English Hawthorn (RED)		4	25	20	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Thorns.																
<i>C. laevigata</i>	'Paulii'	English Hawthorn (RED)		4	25	20	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Thorns. Double flowers.																
<i>Crateagus phaenopyrum</i>	'Fastigiata'	Washington Hawthorn (WHITE)		4a	30	25	13	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Thorns. Columnar with flowers and fruit smaller than species.																
<i>C. phaenopyrum</i>	'Princeton Sentry'	Washington Hawthorn (WHITE)		4a	30	20	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Almost thornless, can be grown to single trunk for street tree.																
<i>C. phaenopyrum</i>	Presidential™	Washington Hawthorn (WHITE)		4a	15	15	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Thorns. Tree form.																
<i>C. phaenopyrum</i>	Washington Lustre®	Washington Hawthorn (WHITE)		4a	25	25	13	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Good vigor and fewer thorns.																
<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	'Winter King'	Winter King Hawthorn (WHITE)		4a	25	25	13	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3,6	🌳 🍏 🌿 🦅 🦉
Adaptable and tolerant of many conditions. Pruning lower limbs may be necessary if planted as street tree. Thorns. Good fall color and showy winter/fall fruit.																
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>		European Beech		4a	50	40	20	L	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	6	🌳 ❄️
More tolerant of urban soil conditions than American Beech - avoid wet soils. Many cultivars exist with options for size, leaf color, and form.																
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	'Autumn Gold'	Ginkgo		4	50	30	15	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	6	🌳 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Golden yellow fall color. Fruitless. Prune in spring. Symmetrical, broad and rounded crown.																
<i>G. biloba</i>	'Magyar'	Ginkgo		4	50	25	13	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	6	🌳 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Yellow fall color. Fruitless. Prune in spring. Upright, ascending branching.																
<i>G. biloba</i>	Princeton Sentry®	Ginkgo		4	60	25	13	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	6	🌳 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Yellow fall color. Fruitless. Prune in spring. Upright habit that tapers to a point.																
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> <i>var. inermis</i>	'Halka'	Honey Locust		4a	40	40	20	M	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	😞	3,6	🌳 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in fall. Fruitless. Round head with less dropping branches.																

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<i>Larix decidua</i>	—	European/ Common Larch		2	75	30	20	L	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	6	
Needs moisture, well-drained and sunny conditions. Deciduous conifer with yellow fall color. More tolerant of cultivation than native Eastern Larch.																
<i>Larix decidua</i>	—	Eastern Larch		1	80	30	20	L	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	5,8	
Also known as tamarack. Deciduous conifer with yellow fall color. Does not tolerate heat. Not well suited to cultivation.																
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	'Moraine'	American Sweetgum		5	60	35	18	M	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	2,6	
Slow to reestablish. Not tolerant of urban conditions and does best in a protected location. Prune during winter. Most vigorous on wet sites. Red fall color.																
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	—	Tuliptree (GREEN-YELLOW)		5	90	50	25	L	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	6	
Reserve for large areas. Prune in winter. Develops scorch in poor, tight growing conditions. Yellow fall color.																
<i>Maackia amurensis</i>	—	Amur Maackia (WHITE)		4a	25	25	13	S	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️		
Adaptable. Summer white flowers. Attractive bronze colored bark.																
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	—	Cucumbertree Magnolia (GREEN-YELLOW)		4a	80	60	30	L	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	6	
Slow to reestablish and not tolerant of tough conditions. Reserve for large areas. Prune after flowering. Thin barked, easily damaged.																
<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	—	Star Magnolia (WHITE)		4a	25	15	8	S	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	
Avoid extreme sites and areas that heat up early in the spring to protect flower buds.																
<i>M. stellata</i>	'Centennial'	Star Magnolia (WHITE)		4a	25	15	8	S	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	
Avoid extreme sites and areas that heat up early in the spring to protect flower buds. Slight pink on the flower, good upright form.																
<i>M. stellata</i>	'Royal Star'	Star Magnolia (WHITE)		4a	10	15	8	S	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	1,6	
Avoid extreme sites and areas that heat up early in the spring to protect flower buds. Pink buds, white flowers. Densely branched.																
<i>Malus baccata</i>	'Jackii'	Siberian Crabapple (WHITE)		3	30	15	8	S	😊	☹️	😊	😊	☹️	☹️	2	
Deep green foliage. Low branching prune for clearance.																
<i>Malus sargentii</i>	—	Sargent Crabapple (WHITE)		4	15	12	6	S	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	2,3	
Tolerant, small, dense tree. Relatively resistant to most crabapple diseases and insect problems.																
<i>Malus spp.</i>	'Adams'	Crabapple (PINK)		4	25	25	13	S	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	2	
Rounded, dense crown. Reddish foliage in youth turning purple with age.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Branzam' Brandywine®	Crabapple (ROSE-PINK)		3	20	20	10	S	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	2	
Double flowers. Reddish to purple fall color.																

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<i>M. spp.</i>	'Cardinal'	Crabapple (SCARLET)		4	20	20	10	S							2	
Few fruits. Spreading, flat-topped. Purple-red foliage. Disease resistant.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Centzam' Centurion®	Crabapple (ROSE-RED)		4	25	20	10	S							2	
Upright branching. Dark reddish green leaves.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Dolgo'	Crabapple (WHITE)		3	40	25	13	S							2	
Flowers well in alternate years. Open habit.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Donald Wyman'	Crabapple (RED-PINK)		4	20	25	13	S							2	
Spreading form, dark green foliage. Fruit persistent in winter.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	Golden Raindrops®	Crabapple (WHITE)		4	15	20	10	S							2	
Golden yellow fruit. Small, slender, horizontal spreading. Resistant to Japanese beetle.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Hargozam' Harvest Gold®	Crabapple (WHITE)		4	30	20	10	S							2	
Flowers one week later than most crabs. Gold fruit that persist through winter. Moderately columnar to vase-shaped. Resistant to Japanese beetle. Disease resistant.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Indian Magic'	Crabapple (DEEP PINK)		4	20	20	10	S							2	
Small, red, persisting fruit. Rounded habit. Orange to red fall color.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Indian Summer'	Crabapple (ROSE-RED)		4	18	25	13	S							2	
Purple green foliage. Broad globe-shaped.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Prairifire'	Crabapple (RED)		4	20	20	10	S							2	
Red-purple, persistent fruit. Upright when young turning round. New leaf growth maroon turning green. Disease resistant.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	Red Jewel™	Crabapple (WHITE)		4	15	12	10	S							2	
Rounded habit with horizontal branches. Dark green foliage.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'x robusta'	Crabapple (WHITE)		4	40	25	13	S							2	
Oval, dense branching.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Selkirk'	Crabapple (ROSE-RED)		4	25	25	13	S							2	
Glossy fruits. Open, upright. Foliage opens reddish green turning to dark green.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	Sugar Tyme®	Crabapple (WHITE)		4	18	15	7.5	S							2	
Persistent red fruit. Upright oval. Dark green foliage. Disease resistant.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'Thunderchild'	Crabapple (PINK)		3	20	20	10	S							2	
Compact, upright-spreading. Deep purple leaves. Disease resistant.																
<i>M. spp.</i>	'x zumi'	Crabapple (WHITE)		4	20	20	10	S							2	
Pyramidal habit, may become rounded.																
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	—	Dawn Redwood		5	100	50	25	L							4	
Performs best in moist, deep, well-drained, slightly acidic soils. Avoid frost pockets which may affect fall foliage. Several cultivars are available.																

Scientific Name	Cultivar	Common Name [Flower Color]	Form	Hardiness Zone	Mature Height	Crown Spread	Soil Volume	Planting Area	Tolerances						Limitations	Features
									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	—	Black Tupelo		4b	50	35	18	M	😊	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	4,6	🍁 🌿 🐦
Difficult to transplant. Fall pruning. Great summer foliage and brilliant red fall color. Not for the most tough urban sites, but could make a nice street tree.																
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	—	Hophornbeam		3b	45	30	15	S	😞	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	4,6	🍎 ❄️ 🌿 🐦
Slow to reestablish. Performs best in cool, moist, well-drained slightly acidic soils.																
<i>Parrota persica</i>	—	Persian Ironwood		4	40	30	15	M	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	5,11	🍁 ❄️
A specimen plant with interesting, exfoliating bark. Often available in shrub form. Low maintenance and no notable insect problems.																
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	His Majesty™	Amur Corktree		3b	45	30	15	L	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	😞	6	🍁 ❄️ ⚠️
Tolerant and adaptable. Prune in winter. Reserve for large areas. Interesting bark. Yellow fall color. Male cultivars recommended to minimize risk of spreading; will not produce fruit, but can pollinate.																
<i>Picea abies</i>	—	Norway Spruce		2	60	30	15	L	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	2,3	🍎 🌲 ❄️
Reserve for large areas. Performs best in well-drained, sandy soils. Prune in spring.																
<i>Picea glauca</i>	—	White Spruce		2	60	20	10	L	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	3	🍎 🌲 ❄️ 🌿
Adaptable and tolerant. Reserve for large areas. Prune in spring.																
<i>Picea omorika</i>	—	Serbian Spruce		4	60	25	30	M	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞		🍎 🌲 ❄️
Noted for excellent foliage. One of the most adaptable spruces.																
<i>Picea orientalis</i>	—	Oriental Spruce		5a	60	25	30	L	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	4	🍎 🌲 ❄️
Noted for excellent foliage.																
<i>Pinus cembra</i>	—	Swiss Stone Pine		3	40	20	10	M	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	4	🍎 🌲 ❄️
Small, dense pine. Requires well-drained, loamy soils in full sun. Slow grower.																
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	—	Austrian Pine		4	60	30	15	M	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	3	🍎 🌲 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Stiff, dark green needles. With age, becomes flat topped and umbrella like.																
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	—	Eastern White Pine		3	80	40	20	L	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	1,3	🍎 🌲 ❄️ 🌿
Easily transplanted and grown. Prefers moist, well-drained, acidic soils. Susceptible to white pine blister rust. Choose certified rust resistant plants. Also susceptible to white pine weevil. Prone to breakage from strong winds, ice and heavy snow.																
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	'Bloodgood'	London Planetree		5	85	70	35	L	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	2,3	🍎 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Attractive bark. Cold injury in harsh winters. Tolerates severe pruning. Drops twigs and leaves.																

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									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>P. acerifolia</i>	'Morton Thornhill' Exclamation™	London Planetree		5	60	45	23	L	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	2,3	🍏 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Attractive bark. Cold injury in harsh winters. Tolerates severe pruning. Drops twigs and leaves.																
<i>P. acerifolia</i>	Ovation™	London Planetree		5	50	60	30	L	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	2,3	🍏 ❄️
Adaptable and tolerant. Attractive bark. Cold injury in harsh winters. Tolerates severe pruning. Drops twigs and leaves.																
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	—	Sycamore		4b	100	80	40	L	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	😞	2,3	🍏 ❄️ 🌿
Prefers deep, rich, moist soils. Cold injury in harsh winters. Attractive bark. Drops twigs and leaves.																
<i>Prunus maackii</i>	—	Amur Chokecherry (WHITE)		2b	35	35	28	S	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	3,6	⚙️ 🍏 🍁 ❄️ 🐦
Attractive bark. Dense round canopy. Prune to maintain tree shape.																
<i>Prunus sargentii</i>	'Columnaris'	Sargent Cherry (PINK)		5a	35	15	8	S	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	6	⚙️ 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🐦
Good yellow, orange to red fall color - develops early. Attractive bark. With age, becomes vase shaped. Short-lived.																
<i>Prunus sargentii</i> x <i>P. subhirtella</i>	'Accolade'	Accolade Flowering Cherry (PINK)		5a	35	20	10	S	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	6	⚙️ 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🐦
Good yellow, orange to red fall color - develops early. Attractive bark. Short-lived. Open habit.																
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	'Aristocrat'	Callery Pear (WHITE)		4	45	20	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	1,6	⚙️ 🍁 ⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure to avoid branch splitting, but much better than 'Bradford'. Blooms later.																
<i>P. calleryana</i>	'Chanticleer'	Callery Pear (WHITE)		4	30	15	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	1,6	⚙️ 🍁 🌿 ⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure to avoid branch splitting, but much better than 'Bradford', also narrow, longer-lived and hardier.																
<i>P. calleryana</i>	'Jaczam' Jack™	Callery Pear (WHITE)		4	15	10	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	1,6	⚙️ 🍁 🌿 ⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Yellow fall color. Good where space is limited.																
<i>P. calleryana</i>	'Jilzam' Jil™	Callery Pear (WHITE)		4	15	15	10	S	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	1,6	⚙️ 🍁 🌿 ⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Yellow fall color. Good where space is limited.																
<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	—	Ussurian Pear (WHITE)		3	35	50	25	S	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	4	🍏 ⚙️ 🍁 🌿 🐦
Hardy pear with dense, rounded habit. Dark green, glossy leaves turn red to purplish in fall.																
<i>Quercus alba</i>	—	White Oak		3b	60	60	30	L	😞	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	2,6	🍏 🌿 🌿 🐦
Attractive bark. Growth is slow, transplant at a small size. Reserve for large areas.																
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	—	Swamp White Oak		4a	60	60	30	M	😞	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	2,6	🍏 🍁 ❄️ 🌿 🐦
Attractive bark. Easier to transplant than Q. alba. Likes acid soils. Yellow to red fall color.																

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									Drought	Poor Drainage	Alkaline Soil	Salt	Air Pollution	Shade		
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	—	Shingle Oak		4	60	60	30	M	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	2,6	🍏🍁❄️🐦
Adaptable. Reserve for large areas. Transplants easier than most oaks.																
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	—	Bur Oak		3a	80	90	45	L	😊	😊	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	2,6	🍏🍁❄️🌿🐦
Adaptable. Reserve for large areas. Difficult to transplant. More tolerant of urban conditions than most oaks.																
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	—	Chinkapin Oak		4	50	55	28	M	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	2,6	🍏🍁🌿🐦
Adaptable. Slow grower and difficult to transplant. Red, yellow to brown fall color.																
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	—	Pin Oak		4a	70	50	25	M	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	2,6	🍏🍁🌿🐦
Adaptable. Moderate tolerance, but very intolerant of high pH soils. Strongly pyramidal habit.																
<i>Quercus robur</i>	'Fastigiata'	English Oak		5a	50	15	25	M	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	2,6	🍏🍁🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Twig dieback in harsh winters.																
<i>Q. robur</i>	'Pyramich' Skymaster®	English Oak		5a	50	25	13	M	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	2,6	🍏🍁🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Twig dieback in harsh winters. Mildew resistant. Tighter than 'Fasitgiata'.																
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	—	Northern Red Oak		3b	75	60	30	L	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	☹️	2	🍏🍁🌿🐦
Adaptable and tolerant expect for high pH. Transplants easily and grows fast for an oak.																
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	—	Common Sassafras (YELLOW)		5a	60	40	20	M	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	4,5,6	⚙️🍏🍁❄️🌿🐦
Difficult to transplant. Prefers a moist, acid, well-drained soil.																
<i>Sorbus americana</i>	—	Mountain Ash (WHITE)		2	30	25	13	S	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	5	⚙️🍏🍁🌿🐦
A slow growing tree or shrub. Does not tolerate heat or urban growing conditions. Not generally a cultivated species.																
<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>	'Princeton Upright'	Scholar-tree (WHITE)		5a	40	50	25	M	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	1,2	⚙️🍏
Also known as Sophora japonica. Adaptable and tolerant once established after transplanting. Twig dieback in harsh winters. Summer flowers. More upright.																
<i>S. japonicum</i>	'Regent'	Scholar-tree (WHITE)		5a	50	45	23	M	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	1,2	⚙️🍏
Also known as Sophora japonica. Adaptable and tolerant once established after transplanting. Twig dieback in harsh winters. Summer flowers, blooms earlier.																
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	—	Japanese Tree Lilac (WHITE)		3	30	25	13	S	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️		⚙️🍏❄️🌿⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Blooms in summer. Prune after flowering. Attractive bark. A couple of reported sites where the tree has reseeded.																

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<i>S. reticulata</i>	'Ivory Silk'	Japanese Tree Lilac (WHITE)		3a	25	15	13	S	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	6	🔧 🍏 ❄️ 🦅 ⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Heavy blooms in summer. Prune after flowering. Attractive bark.																
<i>S. reticulata</i>	'Summer Snow'	Japanese Tree Lilac (WHITE)		3a	20	15	13	S	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	6	🔧 🍏 ❄️ 🦅 ⚠️
Adaptable and tolerant. Heavy blooms in summer. Prune after flowering. Attractive bark. Small tree with compact crown.																
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	—	Baldcypress		5a	70	30	15	L	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	6	🍁 ❄️ 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant expect for high pH. Can handle extensive flooding. A deciduous conifer.																
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	—	White Cedar		3	60	15	8	S	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1	🌲 🌿
Adaptable and tolerant, but prefers moist, rich soils. Tolerates pruning. Heavy snow can cause damage.																
<i>T. occidentalis</i>	'Nigra'	White Cedar		3	20	8	8	S	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1	🌲 🌿
Adaptable and tolerant, but prefers moist, rich soils. Tolerates pruning. Heavy snow can cause damage. Good dark green foliage.																
<i>T. occidentalis</i>	'Smaragd,' 'Emerald'	White Cedar		3	15	4	8	S	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1	🌲 🌿
Adaptable and tolerant, but prefers moist, rich soils. Tolerates pruning. Heavy snow can cause damage. Bright emerald green foliage.																
<i>T. occidentalis</i>	'Techny'	White Cedar		3	15	10	8	S	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1	🌲 🌿
Adaptable and tolerant, but prefers moist, rich soils. Tolerates pruning. Heavy snow can cause damage. Good dark green foliage. Slow grower.																
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Legend®	American Linden , Basswood (YELLOW)		4	55	35	28	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🌿 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Distinctly pyramidal with a central leader and better branching than species.																
<i>T. americana</i>	'Bailyard' Frontyard®	American Linden , Basswood (YELLOW)		4	75	40	20	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🌿 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Symmetrical, pyramidal habit with																
<i>T. americana</i>	'Continental Appeal'	American Linden , Basswood (YELLOW)		4	60	40	20	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🌿 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Wide, dense crown with narrow ascending branches.																
<i>T. americana</i>	'Redmond'	American Linden , Basswood (YELLOW)		4	60	30	15	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🌿 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Uniform, pyramidal habit.																
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	'Bailey' Shamrock®	Littleleaf Linden (YELLOW)		3	45	30	15	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. More open crown. Quick grower.																
<i>T. cordata</i>	'Chancole' Chancellor®	Littleleaf Linden (YELLOW)		3	35	20	10	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Narrow upright habit. Better branch angles.																
<i>T. cordata</i>	'Glenleven'	Littleleaf Linden (YELLOW)		3	50	35	28	M	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	1,3,5	🔧 🦅
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Open habit. Quick grower.																

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<i>T. cordata</i>	'Greenspire'	Littleleaf Linden (YELLOW)		3	45	30	15	M	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	3	🔧🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune for structure. Uniform branching, straight trunk and dark green leaves.																
<i>Tilia x euchlora</i>	—	Caucasian Linden (YELLOW-WHITE)		3	60	30	15	M	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	5	🔧🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Graceful habit with branches touching ground.																
<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	—	Sliver Linden (YELLOW)		4b	70	55	28	M	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	5,6	🔧🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Most drought tolerant of the lindens. Silver underside of leaves.																
<i>T. tomentosa</i>	Green Mountain®	Silver Linden (YELLOW)		4b	60	40	20	M	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	5,6	🔧🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Most drought tolerant of the lindens. Silver underside of leaves. Fast grower with dense crown.																
<i>T. tomentosa</i>	'Sashazam' Satin Shadow®	Silver Linden (YELLOW)		4b	50	40	20	M	☹️	☹️	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	5,6	🔧🐦
Adaptable and tolerant. Most drought tolerant of the lindens. Silver underside of leaves. Uniform, symmetrical growth. Dark green leaves with silver undersides.																
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	—	Eastern Hemlock		3	70	35	28	L	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	3,6	🌲❄️🌿
Avoid hot, dry and windy locations. Tolerates shade and severe pruning. Host to invasive insect pest, hemlock wooly adelgid.																
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	'Jefferson'	American Elm		3b	50	50	25	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	3	🍁🌿
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Vase shape with arching limbs. Good DED resistance. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>U. americana</i>	'Delaware #2'	American Elm		3b	70	80	40	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	3	🍁🌿
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Broad spreading crown. Good resistance to DED. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>U. americana</i>	'New Harmony'	American Elm		4	50	50	25	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	3	🍁🌿
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Good form, DED tolerance is less than other cultivars. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>U. americana</i>	'Princeton'	American Elm		3b	60	40	20	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	3	🍁🌿
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Good form and DED resistance. Long-history, developed before DED. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>U. americana</i>	'Valley Forge'	American Elm		5	70	70	35	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	3	🍁🌿
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Classic elm form with excellent DED resistance. Not as cold hardy. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>Ulmus x spp.</i>	'Morton' Accolade®	Elm		4	70	50	25	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️		🍁
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. American elm-like habit. Glossy dark green foliage. Golden yellow fall color. Good DED resistance. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>U. x spp.</i>	'Discovery'	Elm		3b	45	35	18	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️		🍁
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Upright, compact, oval to vase-like habit. Good DED resistance. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																
<i>U. x spp.</i>	'Frontier'	Elm		5	35	25	13	S	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️		🍁
Adaptable and tolerant. Prune in the fall. Dark green foliage, red fall color. Case shaped habit. Primary host of Asian Longhorned Beetle.																

