

Large Trees



American Holly

Ilex Opaca



Fun Facts:

American holly is a slow-growing evergreen tree that adds year-round beauty to landscaping. Hollies make great privacy screens and are often planted in groups. If you plant American holly for the bright red berries, you will need to plant more than one to make sure you have both male and female plants. American holly provides important wildlife services. The flowers are pollinated by insects including bees, wasps, ants and night-flying moths. Many species of birds and mammals eat the bitter berries, but the fruits are poisonous to humans. The tree also forms a thick canopy which offers protection for birds from predators and storms. American holly is the larval plant for Henry's Elfin butterfly. This is the holly whose berry-laden boughs are typically collected at Christmas time each year for ornamentation ("decking the halls" as it were).

Tree facts



Height: 30-50'

Spread: 15-25'

Light: Part Sun/Part
Shade

Moisture: Dry-Moist



Bald Cypress

Taxodium distichum



Fun Facts:

Bald cypress is a majestic long-lived, pyramidal conifer (cone-bearing tree) with soft, ferny foliage that enhances many landscapes. Although they resemble a needled evergreen, they are deciduous, which means that their feathery leaves turn copper-colored and fall to the ground in the winter. (The tree becomes "bald" and leafless as the common name suggests!) Bald cypress prefer "wet feet" or moist areas. In the deep South, large stands are a familiar sight growing directly in swampy water, with their branches heavily draped with Spanish moss. Bald cypresses often develop distinctive, knobby root growths ("knees") which protrude above the water surface around the tree. In cultivation, however, they also grow well in drier, upland soils or as street trees. Trunks feature an attractive, exfoliating bark and are buttressed (flared or fluted) at the base.



Tree facts

eee

Height: 50-70'

Spread: 20-45'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Medium-Wet



Bur Oak

Quercus Macrocarpa



Tree facts



Height: 70-90'

Spread: 60-80'

Light: Part Shade

Moisture: Moderate.

Well-Drained

Fun Facts:

Bur oak is named for its furry, "bur like" acorn caps that cover large, gold-ball sized acorns. It may take up to 35 years this tree to bear a first crop of acorns. It is of the white oak group. The leaves of bur oak also are large, so they are easy to rake. This species is resistant to oak wilt and a number of other problems and is capable of withstanding a wide range of harsh conditions (one of the most drought resistant oaks). Twigs are sometimes ridged with corky wings. The bur oak is the "most western of the eastern oaks", extending all the way to the foothills of the Rockies! In general, oaks are a keystone species, meaning that entire ecosystems depend on them for survival. They can live for centuries, providing food and habitat for hundreds of species of wildlife, and cleaning the air for future generations. If you have the space, choose this tree! Leave a legacy of clean air and water!



Common Hackberry

Celtis occidentalis



Tree facts



Height: 45-60'

Spread: 40-60'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry - Wet

Fun Facts:

The common hackberry is an extremely hardy tree that can tolerate poor conditions. It is generally a medium sized tree but can grow to be over 100' tall in open spaces with rich, moist, forested, alluvial clay soils. The tiny fruit is prized by numerous birds (and technically edible for humans). It was pulverized and made into cakes by Native Americans.



Common Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana



Tree facts



Height: 40-60'

Spread: 25-35'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry - Medium
(well-draining)



Fun Facts:

The American, or common, persimmon produces a sweet, edible fruit best enjoyed after it softens after the first frost in late autumn. When ripe, the sweet fruit somewhat recalls the flavor of dates. Immature fruit contains tannin and are strongly astringent. Persimmons are consumed fresh and are used to make puddings, cakes, and beverages. Because the persimmon is normally dioecious (male and female flowers appear on separate trees), the best way to ensure fruit production is to plant multiple trees. Mature trees are easily identifiable by thick, dark-gray bark that is deeply furrowed and broken into scaly, squarish blocks.



Cottonwood

Populus Deltoides



Tree facts



Height: 50-80'

Spread: 35-60'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Medium to Wet



Fun Facts:

Populus deltoides, commonly called eastern cottonwood, is a large, fast-growing, deciduous tree that typically grows 50-80' (less frequently to 120') tall with a broad, open-rounded shaped habit. Yellowish twigs, coarsely toothed leaves and gummy end buds distinguish this from the other poplars. It is native from eastern North America through the Great Plains, typically growing along streams and rivers and in lowland areas and swamps. Settlers who pushed westward into the Great Plains in the 1800s sometimes planted eastern cottonwoods along small streams and creeks. Tiny male and female flowers appear in separate catkins on separate male and female trees (dioecious). Flowers bloom in early spring (March-April) before the foliage emerges. Male flowers are reddish but not showy. Female flowers give way to dehiscent capsules that split open when ripe (May in St. Louis), broadcasting abundant densely-tufted seeds. Seeds with silky white hairs give the appearance of cotton as they blow through the air and along the ground, typically collecting along gutters, curbs, roadsides and fences. Bark on mature trees is ridged and dark gray. Triangular, acuminate, coarsely toothed, glossy dark green leaves (to 5" long). Leaves turn yellow in fall. Wood is weak and has little commercial value (warps easily) other than for crates, plywood and pulp.

Hophornbeam

Ostrya virginiana



Tree facts



Height: 25-40'

Spread: 20-35'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

Eastern hophornbeam prefers slightly acidic soil and well-drained sites. It loves hilly areas, and in the wild, often grows in fairly dry, even rocky soil. Although it is not sensitive to drought, it can't survive flooding. Its shaggy bark provides winter interest. This plant is moderately resistant to damage from deer. Also commonly called 'ironwood' because of its extremely hard and dense wood.

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda



Tree facts

eee

Height: 40-70'

Spread: 20-40'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Medium Wet

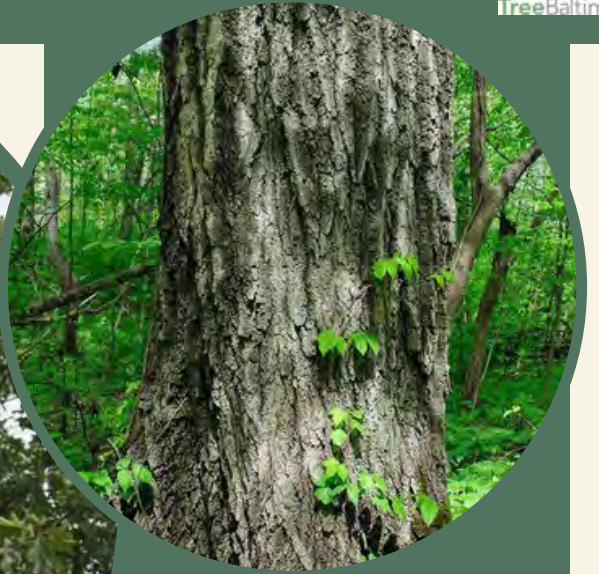
Fun Facts:

Loblolly pine is a fast-growing, fragrant conifer (cone-bearing tree) that grows well in a variety of conditions. 'Loblolly' meaning 'mud puddle,' refers to its preferred growing conditions in moist, sandy soils. This tree is particularly noted for its straight trunk that loses lower branches as it matures. Since it is an evergreen (it retains its needles all year long), it serves as a good screen and provides important winter cover and protected nesting sites for wildlife. Loblolly pines are the larval host to the Elfin butterfly.



Northern Red Oak

Quercus rubra



Tree facts



Height: 70-90'

Spread: 60-75'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Dry/Moist



Fun Facts:

The northern red oak is one of the largest and fastest growing oak species. It is a popular tree species is easily transplantable. Hardy and long-lived; High wildlife value - acorns provide abundant food for wildlife. Fun fact: Northern red oak is the state tree of New Jersey.



Paw Paw

Asimina Triloba



Tree facts



Height: 15-30'

Spread: 15-25'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Medium Wet

Fruit: Edible

Fun Facts:

Known as the 'forgotten fruit,' pawpaw it is the largest edible native fruit found in the US, and the only temperate member of a tropical family. Harvest paw paws in early fall when fruit is just-soft and they are falling to the ground. The yellowish-green fruits are reminiscent of a mango, with a creamy inside that can be eaten raw or cooked, and include several large, dark-brown seeds. Not particularly showy, but interesting, purple, six-petaled flowers appear before leaf emergence. This is a good understory tree. No serious disease or insect problems. The fruit can create a mess on sidewalks and patios, but this can be minimized by planting only one tree; paw paws seldom set much fruit without cross pollination.



Pin Cherry

Prunus Pennsylvanica



Fun Facts:

This species is often called "Fire Cherry" because its seedlings come up after forest fires. The plants grow rapidly and can be used for fuel and pulpwood. It is also a "nurse" tree, providing cover and shade for the establishment of seedlings of the next generation of larger hardwoods. The cherries are made into jelly and are also consumed by wildlife.

Tree facts



Height: 5-15'

Spread: 5-10'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Well Drained



Red Maple

Acer Rubrum



Tree facts



Height: 50-60'

Spread: 30-60'

Light: Full Sun/Partial
Shade

Moisture: Wet-Medium



Fun Facts:

Red maple is a medium-sized, deciduous tree that has the greatest north-south distribution of all tree species along the East Coast, ranging from eastern Canada south to Florida and west to east Texas. Specific epithet of *rubrum* meaning red is everywhere in evidence: red flowers in dense clusters in late March to early April (before the leaves appear), red fruit (initially reddish, two-winged samara), reddish stems and twigs, red buds, and, in the fall, excellent orange-red foliage color. It grows faster than Norway and sugar maples, but slower than silver maple. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, but prefers moist, slightly acid conditions. Very cold hardy. One of the few trees with opposite branching structure that is native to this region

Sassafras

Sassafras albidum



Tree facts

ell

Height: 35-50'

Spread: 20-30'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Moist, Wet



Fun Facts:

Sassafras leaves may be unlobed, 2-lobed (resemble a mitten), or 3-lobed (resemble a trident), and all three shapes may be present on the same branch. All parts of the sassafras plant are spicy and aromatic. The leaves can be dried and used as a spice, much like bay leaves; filé, made from ground roots or leaves, is an important spice used today in Cajun foods, such as gumbo. The roots can also be used to make tea. The trees can form dense thickets from sucker growth. These thickets can be quite striking in color during the fall months. If a single stem is desired, remove the suckers that develop.

Shellbark Hickory

Carya laciniosa



Tree facts



Height: 60-70'

Spread: 40-50'

Light: Part Shade

Moisture: Dry to Moist

Fun Facts:

The Shellbark Hickory is a large, slow growing tree with a relatively narrow crown and is considered the largest "true hickory". Low maintenance and pest resistant. Flowers provide food for bees and the nuts are eaten by deer, bears, foxes, rabbits, squirrels, wild turkeys and other animals. It may take 10 -12 years for the tree to fruit after planting. Male and female flowers occur on the same tree



Willow Oak

Quercus phellos



Tree facts

eee

Height: 50-70'

Spread: 30-40'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry-Wet

Fun Facts:

The willow oak is straight, narrow shade tree that is hardy and tolerant of pollution. Willow oak is a member of the red oak group but lacks the characteristic lobed leaves. It thrives in moist, well-drained soil and full sun. The willow oak will tolerate drought and is considered a trouble-free tree as long as soil pH is acidic. It thrives in floodplains and near streams or marshes. The small leaves are easy to clean up in fall.



Yellowwood

Cladastus Kentuckea



Tree facts



Height: 30-50'

Spread: 40-55'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Medium

Fun Facts:

Cladrastis kentuckea, commonly called American yellowwood, is a medium-sized, deciduous tree of the legume family that typically grows 30-50' tall with upright branching and a broad, rounded crown. It is noted for its pinnately compound foliage, panicles of fragrant white spring flowers, autumn seed pods and yellow fall color. The species is native to the southeastern U.S. In Missouri, it typically occurs in several southwestern counties near the White River and its tributaries. Pinnately compound leaves (usually with 7-11 leaflets) open as yellowish green, turn bright green in summer and then turn yellow in fall. Intensely fragrant, wisteria-like, white flowers in large, drooping, terminal panicles (10-15" long) will cover a mature tree in late spring. Profuse bloom may occur only once every 2 or 3 years however. New trees may not bloom for the first 8-10 years. Bloom is similar in appearance to that of black locust (*Robinia*). Flowers give way to flat seed pods (2.5-4" long) that mature in September-October. Species was formerly called *Cladrastus lutea*.

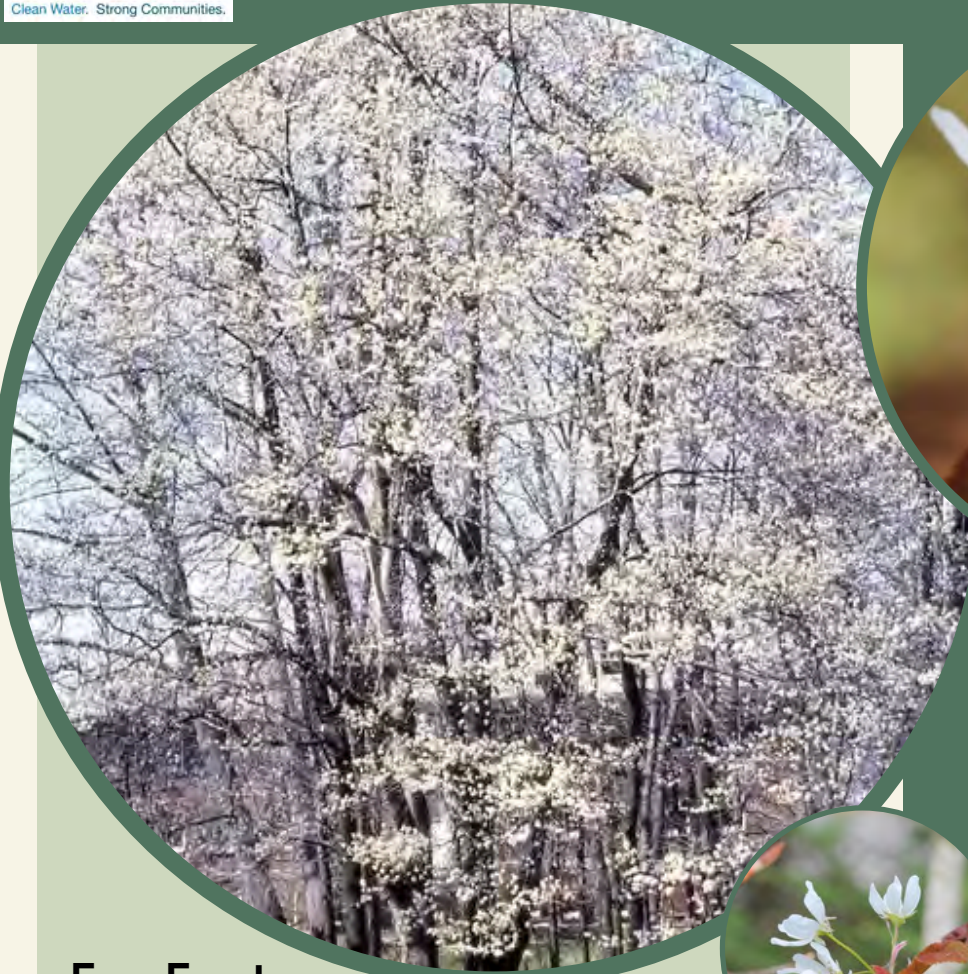


Small Trees



Allegheny Serviceberry

Amelanchier Laevis



Tree facts

ell

Height: 15-30'

Spread: 10-20'

Light: Part Sun/Shade

Moisture: Moist, Slightly Dry



Fun Facts:

Allegheny serviceberry, also called Juneberry, Shadbush, and Saskatoon, is a small, often multi-trunked understory tree or tall shrub. It features showy white flowers in clusters in early spring before the leaves emerge. These blooms give way to delicious purple-red edible berries in June that resemble blueberries in size, color and taste. Berries can be eaten raw or used in jams and pies! If you don't eat them, the birds certainly will. Serviceberries prefer moist, acidic, well-drained loams and will tolerate a range of soil types but not drought. It flowers best in part sun to part shade but tolerates shade. It is medium to fast-growing but a fairly short-lived tree. Serviceberries finish off the year with attractive yellow-orange leaf color. Note: serviceberries are susceptible to cedar apple rust, which does not generally harm the tree but renders the berries inedible.

American Hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana



Tree facts



Height: 20-35'

Spread: 20-35'

Light: Part Sun/Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

American hornbeam is a slow-growing, medium-sized tree with distinctive muscle-like bark and attractive red-orange fall foliage. It is naturally found as an understory species growing near the forest floor and therefore prefers some shade. It grows well along stream banks and bottomlands and tolerates periodic flooding, though it shows remarkable adaptability to drier, sunnier sites. Other common names include blue beech, water beech, musclewood and ironwood. As the common name suggests, the extremely hard wood of this tree was once used by early Americans to make bowls, tool handles and ox yokes. American hornbeam is the larval host for several native butterflies including the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail.

American Plum

Prunus Americana



Tree facts



Height: 15-25'

Spread: 15-25'

Light: Part Sun/Shade

Moisture: Dry to Medium,
Well Drained



Fun Facts:

American plum is a popular residential landscape tree with fragrant, white flowers in early spring. Late-summer fruits are sweet and juicy, making excellent jams, jellies, preserves and pies. The plums can also be halved, then pitted and dried like prunes, spread in a thin sheet and dried as fruit leather. Fall leaf color ranges from electric red to pale yellow. Regular removal of suckers, or branches growing from the base of the tree, is sometimes necessary to prevent unwanted spread. Trees provide valuable nesting cover and are a host to many butterflies. They tolerate drought, dry soil, and black walnut trees (produces allelopathic chemicals that inhibit the growth of other plants).

Eastern Redbud

Cercis canadensis



Tree facts



Height: 30-40'

Spread: 25-30'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Moderate-Wet

Fun Facts:

Eastern redbud is a deciduous, often multi-trunked understory tree with a rounded crown. It is particularly noted for its pea-like pink-purple edible flowers which bloom profusely on bare branches in early spring (March-April) before the foliage emerges. Add flowers and flower buds to salads, breads and pancakes. They have a slightly sour taste, but are high in vitamin C. Young pods may be eaten raw, boiled or sauteed. Eastern redbud is overplanted in this region. It is also prone to splitting due to weak branch connections, so pruning of heavy or dead branches is necessary to help keep the tree healthy.



Smooth Alder

Alnus serrulata



Tree facts

ell

Height: 20-35'

Spread: 20-35'

Light: Part Sun/Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

Alnus Serrulata, commonly called tag alder, smooth alder or hazel alder, is a multi-stemmed, suckering, thicket-forming, large deciduous shrub or small tree that typically grows to 10-20' tall. It is most often seen in a multi-trunked form with a densely branched crown. It is native to boggy ground along streams/lakes/rivers, wetland margins, springs, spring-fed meadows, ditches and swampy fields from Nova Scotia to Illinois and Missouri south to eastern Texas and northern Florida.

Sweetbay Magnolia

Magnolia virginiana



Tree facts



Height: 15-30'

Spread: 15-25'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Moist-Wet



Fun Facts:

Sweetbay magnolia makes an excellent tree for planting next to buildings, in narrow alleys or corridors, or in other urban areas with limited space for horizontal crown expansion. It usually maintains a good, straight central leader, although occasionally the trunk branches low to the ground forming a round multi-stemmed, spreading tree. This tree has extremely high aesthetic and wildlife values. In May, its large, white showy blossoms produce a sweet aroma. Flowers are followed by dark red aggregate fruits exposing bright red seeds that are popular with songbirds. Sweetbays flourish in moist, acid soil such as the swamps in the eastern U.S. and along stream banks.