

Blue Water Baltimore



2025 Tree Lookbook



Order your Tree

<https://bluewaterbaltimore.org/tree-order/>

Eligible Neighborhoods: Anneslie, Campus Hills, Gaywood, Greenbrier, Harford Park, Idlwyld, Knollwood, Loch Raven Village, Lutherville, Rodgers Forge, Rosedale, Ruxton-Riderwood-Lake Roland, Southland Hills, Stoneleigh, Sudbrook, West Towson, Wiltondale, York Manor

Baltimore County Neighborhood Tree Planting list of Trees

Canopy trees:

Mature height typically over 40'

- American Elm 'DED cultivar'*
- American Linden*
- Bald cypress
- Black gum*
- Atlantic White Cedar
- Eastern Red Cedar
- Hackberry*
- Honeylocust
- Hophornbeam
- Loblolly Pine
- London planetree*
- Northern Red Oak*
- Pignut Hickory
- Persimmon
- River birch*
- Shumard Oak
- Southern Red Oak
- Swamp White Oak*
- Tulip poplar
- Willow Oak*

Small trees:

Mature height typically 20-30'
Best for under powerlines or for
small yards and close to homes

- American Hornbeam
- Hawthorn*
- Flowering Dogwood- white
- Fringetree
- Redbud*
- Serviceberry
- Sweetbay Magnolia

*Eligible for Street
Tree planting

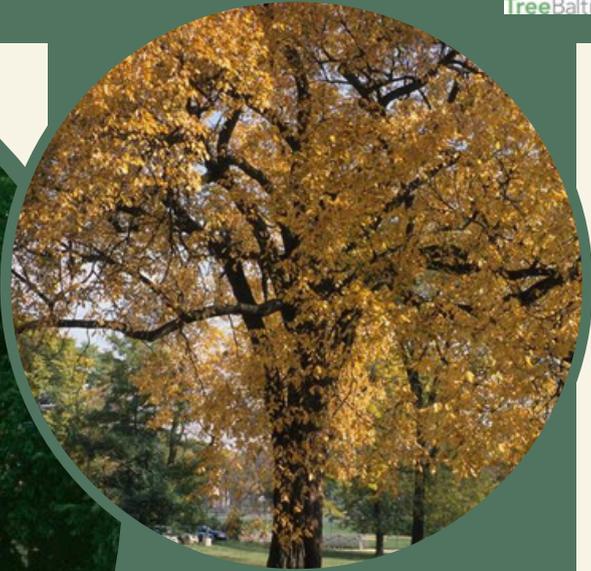


Large Trees



American 'Princeton' Elm

Ulmus americana



Tree facts



Height: 50-70'

Spread: 30-50'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Medium



Fun Facts:

American elm is a medium to large deciduous tree with a vase-shaped, broad-rounded crown. It is native to eastern and central North America. Although once widely planted as a street and lawn tree, American elm populations have been so decimated by Dutch elm disease that this tree is no longer considered to be a viable selection for landscape uses. 'Princeton' is a true American elm, not a hybrid, but selected from a specimen around 1922 and developed by Princeton Nurseries. It reportedly has excellent resistance to Dutch elm disease and is currently being planted.

American Linden

Tilia americana



Tree facts



Height: 50-80'

Spread: 30-50'

Light: Full Sun - Part
Shade

Moisture: Dry - Medium
(well-draining)



Fun Facts:

American linden, also known as an American basswood is a stately, wide-spreading tree. This tree will develop to its full potential if given full sun and rich, moist, well-drained soil. American linden will tolerate clay, a wide pH range and partial shade. Lindens also produce broad, heart shaped, asymmetrical leaves with pointed tips and serrated edges that turn yellow during the fall. When flowering, the trees are full of bees, hence the name "Bee-tree." This species is favored by bees and produces a strongly flavored honey. The abundant seeds are an important food source for a wide range of small mammals and birds.



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



Height: 50-70'

Spread: 20-45'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Medium-Wet



Black Tupelo

Nyssa sylvatica



Tree facts

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Height: 30-50'

Spread: 20-40'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry - Wet



Fun Facts:

The black tupelo (or black gum) is a medium to large tree with a generally narrow canopy with a rich red fall color. While black gums are known to grow in swamps, they are highly adaptable. The fruit is highly sought after by birds and the flowers are popular with honey producers. The name tupelo comes from the Muscogee words for swamp tree.

Atlantic White Cedar

Chamaecyparis Thyoides



Tree facts

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Height: 30-50'

Spread: 30-40'

Light: Full Sun - Part Shade

Moisture: Medium - Wet

Fun Facts:

Chamaecyparis thyoides, known by a number of common names including white cypress, Atlantic cedar or swamp cedar, is a columnar evergreen conifer with a steeple-like crown that typically grows with a straight trunk to 30-50' (less frequently to 90') tall. It is native to freshwater swamps, bogs and wet woods along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Florida and along the Gulf coast from Florida to Mississippi. It is the State Tree of New Jersey where it may be seen growing in large pure colonies. Scale-like adult leaves and needle-like juvenile leaves are a soft blue green. Yellow pollen-bearing cones are found at the stem ends. Seed bearing cones in clusters emerge purple but mature to brown. Mature bark is reddish brown. Wood has excellent resistance to decay and has been used for a number of purposes including boat construction, shingles and posts.



Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana



Tree facts



Height: 30-65'

Spread: 8-25'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Dry - Moist



Fun Facts:

The Eastern red cedar has a compact, pyramid shape excellent for windbreaks and screens. Fragrant, evergreen foliage provides nesting and roosting cover for native birds. They love its small, rounded fruit that is gray or bluish-green in color. This fruit, which appears only on female trees, resembles a berry but it is actually a cone made of fused scales. Red cedar can be injurious to apple orchards because it is an alternate host for cedar-apple rust, a fungal disease. Avoid planting near serviceberries. The wood was a staple of the pencil industry for over a century until supplies became exhausted and the industry switched to more plentiful western cedars. This cedar is an ancient tree and fossil evidence indicates it once covered large portions of the continent.

Common Hackberry

Celtis occidentalis



Tree facts



Height: 45-60'

Spread: 40-60'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry - Wet

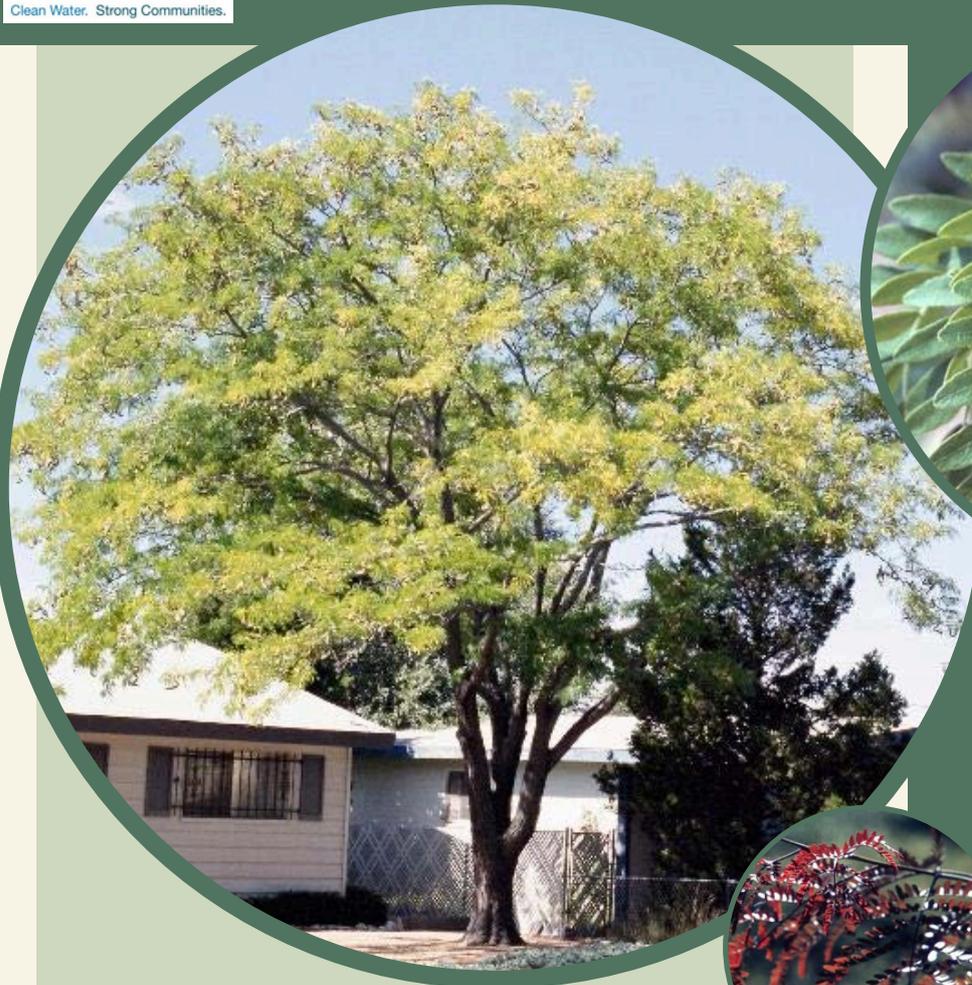
Fun Facts:

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.



Honey Locust

Gleditsia triacanthos



Tree facts

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Height: 30-50'

Spread: 20-35'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Moist



Fun Facts:

Honey locust is hearty, fast-growing tree. It is highly adaptable and thrives in urban conditions. The small leaves provide a beautiful, dappled shade during the summer months and are easy to rake! Leaves turn bright yellow in the fall and are easy to clean up. This tree also has white flowers in early spring.

Hophornbeam

Ostrya virginiana



Tree facts



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.

Height: 25-40'

Spread: 20-35'

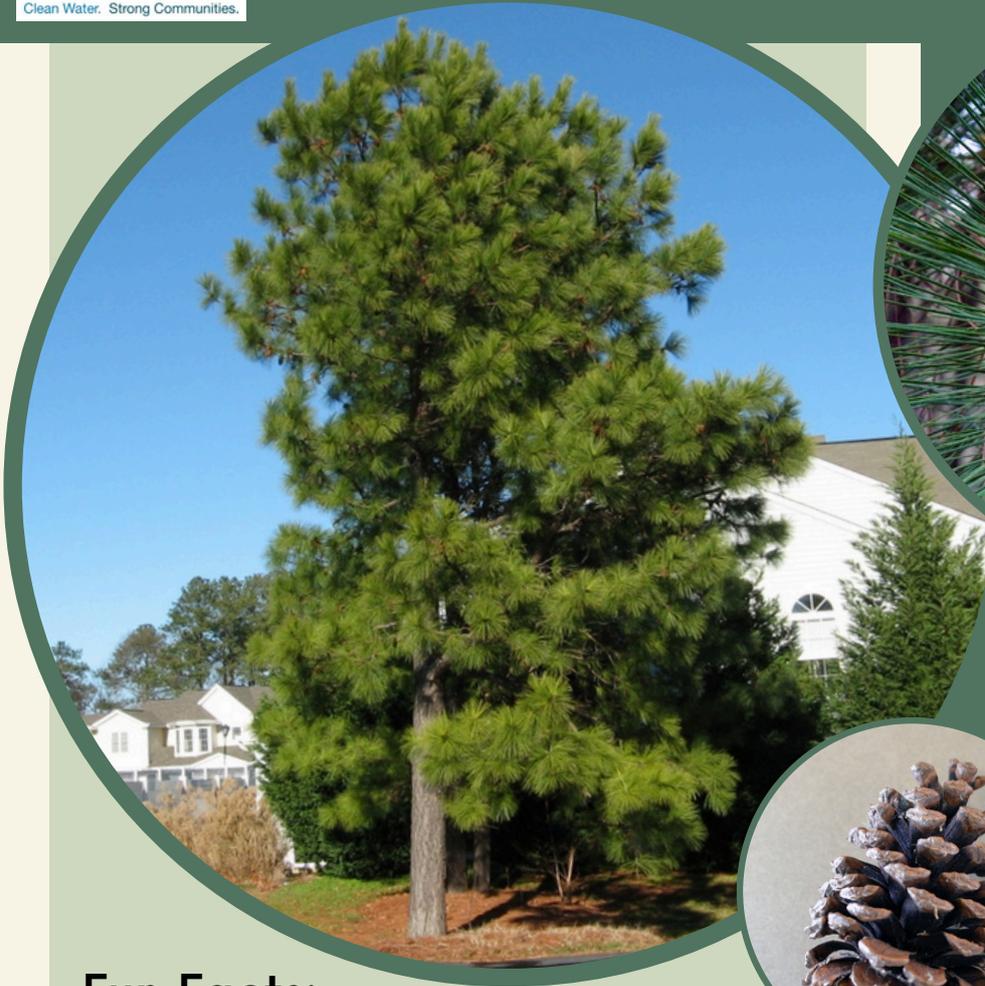
Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda



Tree facts

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Height: 40-70'

Spread: 20-40'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Medium-wet

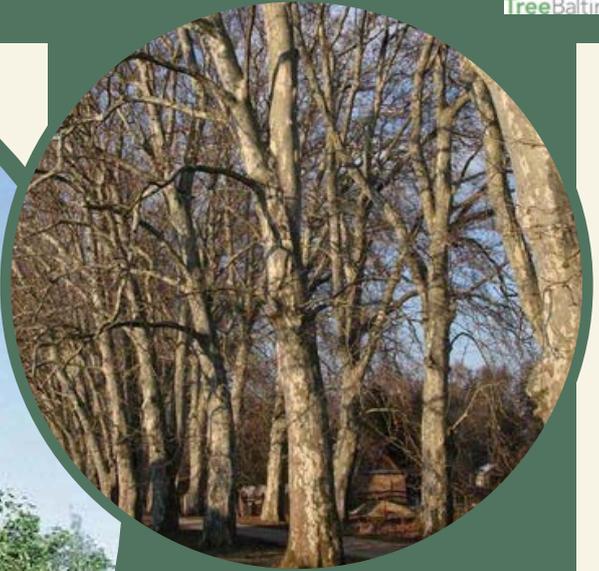


Fun Facts:

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.

London Planetree

Platanus x acerifolia



Tree facts



Height: 65-75'

Spread: 30-40'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Moist

Fun Facts:

Like sycamore, this is a large tree with beautiful peeling bark. Generally tolerant of most urban pollutants. This hybrid today is common in cities across the US such as Brooklyn, New York and San Francisco, California.

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.

Common Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana



Tree facts

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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.



Pignut Hickory

Carya glabra



Tree facts

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Height: 50-65'

Spread: 30-50'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry - Moderate

Fun Facts:

Pignut hickory is a good ornamental tree, especially for drier sites.



River Birch

Betula nigra



Tree facts



Height: 40-70'

Spread: 40-60'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

River birch naturally grows along moist riverbanks, but it is a versatile tree and can be planted almost anywhere in the U.S. It has colorful, exfoliating bark, which is particularly noticeable in the winter. The species is valued for its relatively rapid growth, tolerance of wetness and some drought, spreading limbs and relative resistance to birch borer. It prefers partial shade. River birch is a medium to tall tree, typically living 50 -75 years.

Shumard Oak

Quercus shumardii



Tree facts



Height: 40-60'

Spread: 40-50'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry - Moist

Fun Facts:

The shumard is a relatively fast-growing and adaptable oak. It is tolerant of urban conditions like drought, dry soil, and air pollution. This species also withstands short-term flooding. Provides a rich, red fall foliage color. It has high wildlife value, providing acorns provide food for various songbirds and other animals. Named for Benjamin Franklin Shumard (1820-69), state geologist of Texas.

Southern Red Oak

Quercus falcata



Tree facts



Height: 60-80'

Spread: 40-50'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Dry-Moist

Fun Facts:

This is an ornamentally attractive oak with a straight trunk and open rounded crown. It is best grown in acidic, dry to medium, well-drained loams in full sun but will tolerate some shade. It is also tolerant of poor and sandy soils as well as drought. The Southern red oak is moderately resistant to damage by deer. The leaf is easily recognizable by its elongated, narrow tip (terminal lobe), which is often referred to as a "witch's finger." A relatively fast-growing oak, this southern species will do well in our region as the climate warms. Oaks are keystone species, meaning the entire ecosystems depends on them for survival. They can live for centuries, providing food and habitat for hundreds of species of wildlife, cleaning the air for future generations!



Swamp White Oak

Quercus bicolor



Tree facts

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Height: 50-70'

Spread: 50-70'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Moist



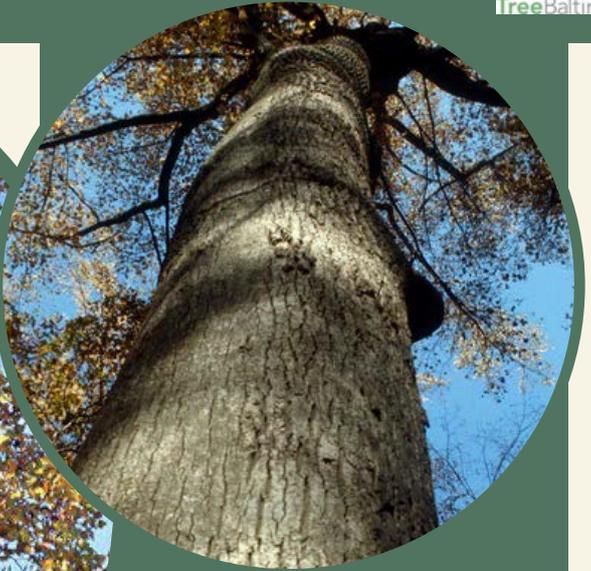
Fun Facts:

Swamp white oak is a highly adaptable large tree. It is one of the more important white oaks for lumber production. The undersides of the bright green leaves are soft and fuzzy to the touch. Its acorns are edible after minimal processing!



Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera



Tree facts



Height: 60-90'

Spread: 30-50'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

While commonly called tulip poplar or yellow poplar, is actually more closely related to magnolia than either a tulip or a poplar. It is a stately, deciduous tree of eastern North America that typically grows 60-90' named and noted for its cup-shaped, tulip-like flowers that bloom in spring. Introduced into Europe from Virginia by the earliest colonists and grown also on the Pacific Coast. Native Americans made dugout canoes from tulip tree trunks. This is the state tree of Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana.



Willow Oak

Quercus phellos



Tree facts

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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.



Small Trees



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.

Flowering Dogwood

Cornus florida



Tree facts



Height: 20-30'

Spread: 20-30'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

The powdered bark of the trunk was reportedly used in toothpaste and black ink, and as an aspirin-like substance. Song and game birds eat the berries. Flowering dogwood is a shade-loving tree commonly found growing as an understory species near the forest floor. It is not tolerant of stresses such as heat, drought, pollution, or road salt. Easily susceptible to powdery mildew.



Fringe Tree

Chionanthus virginicus



Tree facts

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Height: 10-20'

Spread: 10-15'

Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

Moisture: Well-Drained



Fun Facts:

Fun facts: Fringe tree gets its name from its clouds of fleecy white, softly fragrant flowers that hang from the branches in late spring and early summer. This tree can be either male or female. One of the last trees to bear new leaves in spring, it appears dead until the leaves and flowers appear. The genus name *Chionanthus*, meaning snow and flower, describes the blossoms.

Green 'Winter King' Hawthorn

Crataegus viridis



Tree facts



Height: 25-35'

Spread: 25-35'

Light: Full Sun

Moisture: Dry-moderate



Fun Facts:

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates light shade and drought. Moist, rich, fertile soils may encourage unwanted succulent growth. Tolerant of urban pollution. 'Winter King' is a popular, more disease-resistant cultivar that is noted for its profuse bloom of flowers, larger fruits, silvery-barked stems and more attractive fall color (purple and scarlet.) Unlike most hawthorns, this cultivar (as well as the species) is largely spineless, with only occasional small thorns. The fruit is sometimes called a haw. Fruits are technically edible, and may be harvested to make jelly, but are usually best left for the birds.



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.



Allegheny Serviceberry

Amelanchier Laevis



Tree facts

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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.

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.

