

RECOMMENDED SMALL TREES FOR CITY USE

(Less than 30 feet)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Comments
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Serviceberry, shadbush, Juneberry	Very early white flowers. Good for pollinators and wildlife.
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	False indigobush	Can form clusters. Legume. Good for pollinators.
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Paw-paw	Excellent edible fruit. Good for wildlife. Can be hard to establish.
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Fringe Tree	
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry (Dogwood)	
<i>Cornus spp.</i>	Shrub dogwoods – Gray, Pale, Red-Osier, Alternate, Silky	Can form clusters. Very good for wildlife & pollinators.
<i>Corylus americana</i>	Hazelnut	Very good for wildlife.
<i>Crataegus pruinosa</i>	Frost hawthorn	Thorny, attractive white flowers. Good for wildlife.
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Witchhazel	Good for pollinators
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush	Very good for butterflies. Sweet-smelling aromatic leaves
<i>Malus spp.</i>	Crabapples – Iowa and Prairie	Can get 25' tall. Beautiful spring flowers. Good for wildlife.
<i>Oxydendrum arborum</i>	Sourwood	
<i>Prunus americana</i>	Wild or American plum	Can form clusters. Very good for wildlife. Can get 20' tall.
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Chokecherry	Can get 30' tall. Good for wildlife and pollinators.
<i>Rhus aromatic</i>	Aromatic sumac	Attractive to bees and butterflies.
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Elderberry	Edible black berries – good for wildlife and pollinators.
<i>Viburnum spp.</i>	Arrowwood, nannyberry, blackhaw	Early white flower clusters, very good for wildlife.

NOTES:

- All the above small trees/shrubs prefer moist soil. Some, like the false Indigobush, silky and red-osier dogwoods, spicebush, and elderberry, can tolerate wet soils. None do well on dry sandy or rocky soils.
- All prefer at least 3 hours of sun per day, and flower better when they can get 6 hours or more per day. Spicebush can tolerate full shade, but flowers better with 3-6 hours of sun.

RECOMMENDED MEDIUM TREES FOR CITY USE

(30 to 50 feet)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Comments
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red maple	Attractive, fairly fast-growing shade tree.
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River birch	Attractive peeling reddish bark. Short-lived
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Blue beech, musclewood	Muscle-shaped stems, very dense, hard wood.
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud	Legume. Very early red flowers. Good for pollinators.
<i>Cladrastris lutea</i>	Yellowwood	Unusual smooth gray bark.
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering dogwood	Gorgeous large white flowers. Good for pollinators.
<i>Crataegus spp.</i>	Washington and green hawthorns	Have thorns, good for pollinators and wildlife.
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	THORNLESS honey locust	Some varieties are also seedless
<i>Malus pumila</i> <i>Pyrus spp.</i> <i>Prunus spp.</i>	Domestic apple Domestic pear Domestic cherries, peaches, plums, and apricots	Large edible fruits. Good for pollinators and wildlife. Can be messy if fruits are allowed to rot.
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i> or <i>M. soulangiana</i>	Magnolias – cucumber tree or saucer	Needs full sun. Striking spring flowers. Needs protection from cold.
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black gum, sour gum	Good for pollinators.
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black cherry	Good for pollinators and wildlife. Can grow crookedly in shade.
<i>Salix nigra</i>	Black willow	Early flowers good for pollinators.

NOTES:

- All the above trees prefer moist soil. Only black willow does well on wet sites. None do well on dry sandy or rocky soils.
- All prefer at least 3 hours of sun per day, and flower better when they can get 6 hours or more per day. Flowering dogwood can tolerate full shade, but grows and flowers better with 3-6 hours of sun.
- Keep willows away from septic systems – roots actively seek out water and can plug them up.

RECOMMENDED LARGE TREES FOR CITY USE

(50+ feet)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Comments
<i>Carya spp.</i>	Pecan, hickories	Edible fruit (pecans), hickories slow growing. Good for wildlife
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry	Warty bark, attractive to birds,
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	Persimmon	Edible fruit, attractive dense bark, messy if fruit isn't gathered in fall.
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American beech	Attractive smooth light-gray bark. Good for wildlife.
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky coffee tree	Legume. Attractive to hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tuliptree	Attractive to pollinators. Straight, fast-growing tree.
<i>Quercus spp.</i>	Oaks (native) – white, bur, red, black, swamp white.	<u>Excellent</u> for pollinators and wildlife. Long-lived, withstands harsh weather
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald cypress	Has deciduous needles.
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Basswood	Good for pollinators. Soft wood.
<i>Ulmus hybrids</i>	Dutch elm-resistant elms	Varieties like: Morton, Plainsman, Glossy, Red Tip, and Stalwart

NOTES:

- All the above trees prefer moist soil. Only bald cypress does well on very wet sites. Pecan, shellbark hickory, hackberry, persimmon, and swamp white oak tolerate some wetter sites. None do well on dry sandy or rocky soils.
- All prefer at least 3 hours of sun per day, and flower better when they can get 6 hours or more per day. Pin oak is a striking triangular-growing specimen tree, but needs full sun for best results.