

Approved Tree Planting List

Native tree species that are proposed to be planted on municipal lands and on private lands where site development is subject to planning approvals shall be selected from the approved list of trees below. Trees should be chosen based on site and neighbourhood characteristics and design, and should give careful consideration to: soil type, moisture, growing space demands, and proximity to utilities or other obstacles.

It is the responsibility of the proponent, via recommendation by the project arborist, to justify the need for any requested exceptions to the approved tree planting list, to be approved to the satisfaction of the Town.

This list may also be used by residents and community members as a helpful guide when selecting appropriate native tree species for plantings on their own properties, supporting a more resilient and ecologically diverse urban forest.

Tree Species	Site Suitability	Height Ranges	Size/ Form	Comments
Native Deciduous				
Basswood <i>Tilia americana</i>	Boulevard Park	35 m	Large	Grows best in moist, well-drained sites. Full shade or sun.
Black Cherry <i>Prunus serotina</i>	Boulevard Park	18 m – 24 m	Large Oval	Edible fruit, moderately long-lived up to 250 years.
Black Gum <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m – 23 m	Triangular	Long-lived. Nesting. Good for bees.
Black Maple <i>Acer nigrum</i>	Boulevard Park	21 m – 34 m	Spreading Rounded	Part-shade to shade. Okay in dry soils.
Black Oak <i>Quercus velutina</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m – 25 m	Large Rounded	Likes well-drained soils.
Burr Oak <i>Quercus marrocarpa</i>	Boulevard Park	30 m	Large Spreading	Best oak for urban environments.
Cherry Birch <i>Betula lenta</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m	Feathery	Moist, well-drained soils in full sun.
Chinquapin Oak <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Boulevard Park	10 m – 17 m	Large Spreading	Long-lived.

Freeman Maple <i>Acer xfreemanii</i>	Boulevard Park	15 – 25 m	Upright Oval	A cross between Red and Silver Maples. Hardy.
Hackberry <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Boulevard Park	9 m – 15 m	Vase	Very Hardy.
Honey Locust <i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i>	Boulevard Park	24 m	Feathery	Natural varieties have thorns. Strongly scented flowers.
Ironwood <i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Boulevard Park	12 m	Bushy	Tolerant of various shade and soil conditions.
Kentucky Coffee <i>Gymnocladus dioica</i> <i>expresso</i>	Boulevard Park	15 m – 25 m	Tall Oval	Tolerant of urban conditions.
Northern Catalpa <i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Boulevard Park	15 – 30 m	Pyramidal	Rapid growth. Low water use. Tolerant of a variety of light and soil conditions.
Ohio Buckeye <i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Boulevard Park	9 m – 15 m	Rounded	Dense crown. Doesn't tolerate heavy clay soils. Must be well-watered and mulched for first few years.
Pin Cherry <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Boulevard Park	15 m	Pyramidal	Full sun. Well-drained soils. Short-lived 35 years.
Pin Oak <i>Quercus palustris</i>	Boulevard Park	18 m – 22 m	Pyramidal	Prefers acidic soil.
Red Maple <i>Acer Rubrum</i>	Boulevard Park	15 m – 16 m	Oval Rounded	Very adaptable to many conditions.
Red Oak <i>Quercus rubra</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m – 30 m	Large Spreading	Good shade tree.
Scarlet Oak <i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m – 30 m	Large Spreading	Prefers dry, sandy, acidic soil. Fast-growing and long-lived.
Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Boulevard Park	Up to 8 m	Feathery	Edible fruit. Moderately long-lived up to 250 years.
Silver Maple <i>Erable argente</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m – 30 m	Large	Fast growing. Weak wood - needs maintenance as it matures.
Sweet Gum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Boulevard Park	18 m – 23 m	Pyramidal	Requires full sun and well-drained soil. Grows fast.
Tulip Tree <i>Liriodendron</i>	Boulevard Park	35 m	Large/Round Columnar	Likes full sun and summer moisture. Sandy soil. Fast growing.

White Oak <i>Quercus alba</i>	Boulevard Park	24 m – 30 m	Large Spreading	Long-lived.
Accolade Elm <i>Ulmus accolade</i>	Park	20 m – 30 m	Vase	Full to partial sun and moist soil. Once mature, it will tolerate drought.
American Hazelnut <i>Corylus americana</i>	Park	2.5 m	Densely branched	Full sun to partial shade; various soils. Can form thickets.
American Hornbeam/ Blue Beech <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Park	6 m – 10 m	Round	Moist, well-drained soil. Partial shade. Dense form in sun, open form in shade.
American Chestnut <i>Castanea dentata</i>	Park	10 m	Spreading Broad Round	Tolerates wide range of soil conditions. Full sun to shade, moist well-drained soil. Tolerates many soil types. Fast growing.
American Plum <i>Prunus americana</i>	Park	4.5 m – 7.6 m	Forms thickets Suckering	Intolerant of shade and drought. Likes reliable rainfall.
Basswood <i>Tilia americana</i>	Park	35 m	Large Pyramidal	Shade tolerant but grows in sun, too. Fragrant flowers.
Bitternut Hickory <i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Park	20 m – 35 m	Large, Oval Vase	Full sun and moist, rich soils.
Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i>	Park	30 m – 40 m	Large Spreading	Full sun and rich, moist, well-drained soils.
Black Willow <i>Salix nigra</i>	Park	30 m	Large Spreading	Prefers wet/flooded soil.
Butternut <i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Park	30 m	Large Spreading	Endangered due to Butternut Canker.
Canada Plum <i>Prunus nigra</i>	Park	9 m	Upright - Branched	Part sun to shade and moist, rich soils. Fast-growing and short-lived.
Crab Apple <i>Malus coronaria</i>	Park	9 m	Broad Spreading	Needs to be planted 500 ft away from junipers. Trees should be chosen with smaller apples as birds more readily access them.
Cucumber Tree <i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	Park	12.2 m – 21.3 m	Open Bell	Full sun to shade. Likes moist to wet soil & acidic soil. Medium growth rate.
Eastern Cottonwood <i>Populus deltoides</i>	Park	30 m	Oval	Sandy soils, full sun. Soft wood easily wind damaged. Avoid planting near buildings.

Eastern White Cedar <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Park	15 m	Prune to Desired Shape	Grows best in moist soil. Tolerates some shade.
Gray Dogwood <i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Park	3 m – 4.5 m	Spreading Multi-stem	Shade to full sun. Tolerant of many soil and moisture conditions.
Hop Tree <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	Park	4.6 m – 10 m	Round Vase	Part shade to full sun, sandy soils, various moisture. Species at risk.
Ironwood <i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Park	12 m	Pyramidal	Deep shade to sun. Grows best in well-drained soil. Intolerant of flooding.
Large-tooth Aspen <i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Park	20 m – 25 m	Pyramidal	Tolerant of various soils and moisture. Intolerant of shade.
Pawpaw <i>Asimina triloba</i>	Park	11 m	Small Rounded	Partial to full shade. Tend to develop colonies.
Peachleaf Willow <i>Salix amygdaloides</i>	Park	20 m	Spreading Irregular	Sun to shade. High water use. Grows quickly. Shorter-lived.
Pignut Hickory <i>Carya glabra</i>	Park	20 m	Narrow Open	Full sun. Prefers loam but adapts to many soils.
Princeton Elm <i>Ulmus Princeton</i>	Park	15 m – 21 m	Vase	Full sun. Moist, well-drained soils.
Redbud <i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Park	6 m – 9 m	Irregular	Full sun to partial shade. Moist, well-drained rich soils. Drought resistant once established.
Red Mulberry <i>Morus rubra</i>	Park	18 m	Large Spreading	Tolerates some shade. Moist soils. Species at Risk.
Sassafras <i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Park	20 m		Full sun to partial shade. Loamy/sandy soils.
Shagbark Hickory <i>Carya ovata</i>	Park	18 m – 28 m	Large Spreading	Full sun to partial shade. Tolerates various soils. Slow growth. Drought tolerance once established.
Shellbark Hickory <i>Carya laciniosa</i>	Park	30 m	Narrow Open	Prefers full sun and moist loam. Drought tolerance once established.
Swamp White Oak <i>Quercus bicolora</i>	Park	18 m – 24 m	Large Rounded	Prefers wetter conditions. Tolerant of compacted soil.
Sycamore <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Park	30 m – 40 m	Large Spreading	Tolerant of urban conditions. Long-lived but subject to anthracnose.

Witchhazel <i>Hamamelidaceae virginiana</i>	Park	6 m	Irregular Open Crown	Moist, well-drained soils.
Valley Forge Elm <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Park	24 m	Upright Arching	Full sun. Doesn't tolerate extremely dry areas.
Yellowwood <i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	Park	27 m	Large Spreading	Full sun. Well-drained soils. Susceptible to ice storm damage.

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Native Coniferous				
Black Spruce <i>Picea mariana</i>	Boulevard Park	1 m – 15 m	Pyramidal	Wet, organic soils.
Eastern Hemlock <i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Boulevard Park	31 m	Conical Tapers to Top	Prefers a cool, moist environment. Intolerant to drought and pollution.
Eastern Red Cedar <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Boulevard Park	9 m – 12 m	Tall Upright	Tolerant to a range of soil conditions. Drought tolerant. Good erosion control.
Eastern White Cedar <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Boulevard Park	15 m	Prune to Desired Shape	Grows best in moist soils. Slow-growing and subject to leaf miner.
Eastern White Pine <i>Pinus strobus</i>	Boulevard Park	70 m	Tall Straight	Long-lived.
Red Pine <i>Pinus resinosa</i>	Boulevard Park	35 m		Grows best in full sun. Tolerates poor/rocky soils. Tolerates a variety of moisture levels.
Tamarack <i>Larix laricina</i>	Boulevard Park	20 m		Full sun. Variety of soils. Provides light shade and can be underplanted.

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Acceptable Non-Native Trees

Columnar English Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> 'fastigiata'	Boulevard Park	15 m – 18 m	Columnar	Prefers well-drained soil but is tolerant of urban conditions. Susceptible to pests and diseases.
Katsura <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Boulevard Park	14 m	Columnar	Part sun to shade. Moist conditions and rich soil.

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Native Shrubs for Landscaping

Alternate Leaf Dogwood <i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	8 m	Wide spreading Flat top	Shade tolerant. Moist-well drained soils. Good for forest margins.
American Cranberry <i>Viburnum trilobites</i>	4 m	Rounded	Full sun to partial shade. Wet to moist, well-drained soils.
Arrowwood <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	1.8 m – 3 m	Tapers to Top Rounded Upright	Full sun to partial shade. Moist soil. Can naturalize through suckering.
Beautyberry <i>Callicarpa americana</i>	3 m - 6 m	Loose Arching	Full sun to partial shade. Well-draining soil. Drought tolerance once established.
Blackhawk <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	6 m – 12 m	Upright	Full sun to partial shade. Medium to well-drained soils. Near native to Ontario.
Bladdernut <i>Staphyleaceae</i>	2.4 m – 4.5 m	Multi-Stemmed Thicket Forming	Full sun to partial shade. Moist, well-draining soil. Tolerates occasional flooding.

Bush Honeysuckle <i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	1 m	Mound	Partial sun to shade. Dry soil. Low water use. Short-lived.
Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	3 m	Spreading Multi-Stemmed	Poisonous to animals. Good for low-lying wet areas. Doesn't tolerate drought.
Chokeberry <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	2 m – 6 m	Branching	Prefers moist, well-draining soil.
Elderberry (Canadian) <i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	3.6 m	Multi-Stemmed	Partial shade. Moist soils.
Elderberry (Red) <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	6 m	Multi-Stemmed	Prefers shade. Moist soils. Fast-growing and short-lived.
Flowering Dogwood <i>Cornus florida</i>	4.6 m – 7.6 m	Horizontal Branching	Full sun to partial shade. Acidic soil. Grows best in sheltered environment.
Hawthorn <i>Crataegus spp.</i>	12 m	Spreading Multi-Stemmed	
Highbush Cranberry <i>Viburnum opulus var. americanum</i>	2.4 m – 4.6 m	Multi-Stemmed	Sun to partial shade. Subject to leaf beetle.
Hobblebush <i>Viburnum lantanooides</i>	3 m – 10 m	Rounded Upright	Full sun to partial shade. Well-drained soils.
Ink Berry Holly <i>Ilex glabra</i>	1.8 m – 3.6 m	Rounded Multi-Stemmed	Partial shade. Moist to wet, sandy soil. Flood tolerant.
Low Bush Blueberry <i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	5 cm – 60 cm	Multi-Stemmed	Full sun to partial shade. Needs low pH soil.
Mapleleaf Viburnum <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	1.5 m – 3.6 m	Densley Branched Suckers	Partial sun to full shade. Medium to moderately dry conditions.
Nannyberry <i>Viburnum lentago</i>	2.4 m – 7.6 m	Multi-Stemmed Thicket Forming	Full sun to full shade. Tolerates some flooding. Tolerates various soils and moisture levels.
New Jersey Tea <i>Cephalanthus americana</i>	1.2 m – 1.5 m	Upright Mound	Full sun (best) to partial shade. Dry to moderate soil. Drought tolerant once established.
Ninebark <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>		Cascading Mound	Full to partial sun. Variety of soils. Drought tolerant once established.

Northern Bayberry <i>Myrica pennsylvanica</i>	4.3 m – 3 m	Densley Branched Round	Full to partial sun. Any soil & moist to dry conditions. Drought tolerant once established.
Pagoda Dogwood <i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	4.6 m – 6 m	Layered Horizontal Branches	Full sun to partial shade. Wet to moist, well-drained soils but tolerant to many soil types.
Pussy Willow <i>Salix discolor</i>	6 m	Multi-Stemmed	Prefers moist conditions. Grows quickly. Subject to wind damage.
Purple Flowering Raspberry <i>Rubus odoratus</i>	1.8 m – 3.7 m	Multi-Stemmed Spreading	Sun to shade. Moist soils.
Red Osier Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i>	2.4 m – 3.6 m	Rounded Multi-Stemmed	Part sun to full shade. Medium to wet soil. Variety of soil types.
Rose Mallow <i>Hibicus moscheutos</i>	1.5 m – 2.5 m	Multi-Stemmed	Sun to partial shade. Species at Risk.
Rough Leaf Dogwood <i>Cornus drummondii</i>	1.8 m – 4.6 m	Round Multi-Stemmed	Full sun to shade. Moist soils. Adaptable to varying light and soil conditions.
Round Leaf Dogwood <i>Cornus drummondii</i>	1.8 m – 2.1 m	Multiple Straight Stems	Full sun to partial shade. Well-drained soil. Moist to dry conditions.
Sandbar Willow <i>Salix exigua</i>	4 m – 7 m		Part shade. Sandy/gravel soils. High water use. Great for stream stabilization.
Smooth Rose <i>Rosa blanda</i>	1.8 m	Spreading	Rocky soil. Dry, open woods, hills and roadsides.
Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	0.5 m – 1.5 m	Forms Thickets	Sun to shade. Dry to moist, sandy/gravel soil.
Spicebush <i>Lindera benzoin</i>	1.8 m – 3.7 m	Spreading Wider than Tall	Part sun to shade. Well-drained, dry to moist soil.
Spikenard <i>Lindera benzoin</i>	1.5 m	Bush-like	Part sun to shade. Dies back to ground in late Fall.
St. Johns Wort <i>Hypericum kalmianum</i>	0.9 m		Sun. Dry soil. Sandy loam.
Sumac (Fragrant) <i>Rhus aromatica</i>	1.2 m – 1.8 m	Spreading Multi-Stemmed	Sun to shade. Dry to moist soil. Low water needs. Tolerant to various soils.

Sumac (Staghorn) <i>Rhus typhina</i>	1.8 m – 4.6 m	Irregular Forms Colonies	Dry, rocky soil.
Sweetgale <i>Nyrica gale</i>	0.6 m	Multi-Stemmed	Sun to shade. Moist to wet soil.
Viburnum <i>Viburnum caissinodes</i>	5 m – 8 m		Full sun to partial shade. Needs good drainage. Prefers moist conditions but can handle wet and dry.
Wild Raisin <i>Viburnum nudum</i>		Rounded	Full sun to partial shade. Needs good drainage. Prefers moist conditions but can handle wet and dry.
Winterberry <i>Illex verticillata</i>	0.9 m – 4.5 m	Dense, Branching Upright	Sun to partial shade. Acidic soil. Good for rain gardens.