

OPTIONS FOR PLANTING

Native Urban Trees of Southeast Minnesota

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Are you considering planting an urban or yard tree in southeast Minnesota? If so, consider one of these native urban trees. Native trees are indigenous to the region so they do well in our climate and cannot become invasive.

When selecting a tree, consider height at maturity. Plant only small trees near power lines. Consider a variety of tree species and families when planting multiple trees because a diverse landscape is more resilient against insects and diseases. Additional attributes to consider include: flowers, seeds/fruits, leaves, disease resistance and tolerance to soil compaction and salt.

Common name, (local common name) *Scientific name*

DECIDUOUS (*broad leaves, drop leaves in winter*)

- Alternate-leaf dogwood, (Pagoda dogwood) *Cornus alternifolia*
- American basswood, (linden) *Tilia americana*
- American elm, (Princeton or Valley Forge) *Ulmus americana*
- American hornbeam (blue beech), *Carpinus caroliniana*
- Bitternut hickory, *Carya cordiformis*
- Black cherry, *Prunus serotina*
- Black oak, *Quercus velutina*
- Bur oak, *Quercus macrocarpa*
- Downy hawthorn, *Crataegus mollis*
- Downy serviceberry, *Amelanchier arborea*
- Eastern burningbush (Wahoo), *Euonymus atropurpureus*
- Eastern hophornbeam (ironwood), *Ostrya virginiana*
- Hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*
- Honeylocust (thornless), *Gleditsia triacanthos* (var. *inermis*)
- Kentucky coffeetree, *Gymnocladus dioica*
- Nannyberry (viburnum), *Viburnum lentago*
- Northern pin oak (Jack oak or hill oak), *Quercus ellipsoidalis*
- Northern red oak, *Quercus rubra*
- Paper birch (white birch), *Betula papyrifera*
- Red maple, *Acer rubrum*
- River birch, *Betula nigra*
- Shagbark hickory, *Carya ovata*
- Sugar maple, *Acer saccharum*
- Swamp white oak, *Quercus bicolor*
- White oak, *Quercus alba*
- **Common name, (local common names) *Scientific name***





Common name, (local common name) *Scientific name*

CONIFEROUS (*cone & needle bearing, typically evergreen*)

- Balsam fir, *Abies balsamea*
- Black spruce, *Picea mariana*
- Eastern white pine, *Pinus strobus*
- Jack pine, *Pinus banksiana*
- Northern white cedar, *Thuja occidentalis*
- Red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*
- Red pine (Norway), *Pinus resinosa*
- Tamarack (American larch), *Larix laricina*
- White spruce, *Picea glauca*

REFERENCE INFORMATION

All names on this list are the official common name, followed occasionally (with the local common name) and the *scientific name*. Names were taken from:

- Little, Elbert L. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees Eastern Region. New York: Knopf, 1980.

This book is also recommended as an excellent source for tree identification information and includes many color photos.

Recommended urban trees are taken from the University of Minnesota Extension publications:

- *Recommended Trees for Southeast Minnesota: An Ecosystem Approach* website at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD6574.html>. Additional information about tree and site characteristics as it relates to urban environments can also be found at this website.

Other good sources for tree information:

- Tree Owner's Manual at <http://na.fs.fed.us/urban/treeownersmanual/>
- A Beginner's Guide to Minnesota Trees <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/dd6593.html>
- Minnesota Trees <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/dd0486.html>
- Minnesota DNR, http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/trees_shrubs/index.html
- *Trees and Shrubs of Minnesota*, Welby R. Smith, copyright 2008. Available at Amazon and other retail bookstores.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Send a message to Angela Gupta, agupta@umn.edu.