

# American Plum

*Prunus americana*



The American plum is a small tree that is native throughout much of the central United States. It produces 1", reddish-purple plums that are best suited for jams or jellies. Though it does grow fruit, this tree is typically planted for ornamental and wildlife value.

- Produces small, reddish-purple plums that ripen in July and August
- Displays white blooms in early spring
- Attracts songbirds, pollinators, wild turkeys, quail, and deer

## **Mature Height**

10' - 20'

## **Mature Spread**

15' - 25'

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun, Partial Sun/Shade, Full Shade

## **Soil Preference**

Clay, Loamy, Moist, Well Drained, Slightly Acidic

## **Wildlife Value**

Plum trees provide food and cover for butterfly larva, birds and mammals.

## **Growth Speed**

Medium to Fast

# Black Cherry

*Prunus serotina*



The black cherry is praised for its abundant spring bloom, attractive foliage through the summer, and fall color. Following its spring flowers, this tree will produce drooping clusters of small red berries that will ripen in the summer and change to a dark, purple-black color. Over time, the bark will develop a flaky pattern.

- Is native to the eastern U.S
- Displays clusters of fragrant white flowers in the spring
- Berries are inedible fresh from the tree, but can be used in jams and jellies

## **Mature Height**

50' - 80'

## **Mature Spread**

25' - 40'

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun, Partial Sun/Shade

## **Soil Preference**

Loamy, Moist, Well Drained

## **Wildlife Value**

Fruits attract birds and other vertebrates and flowers attract countless pollinators

## **Growth Speed**

Fast



# Black Tupelo/ Black Gum

*Nyssa sylvatica*



Called “one of the best and most consistent native trees for fall color” by tree expert Michael Dirr, the black tupelo is a terrific landscaping choice. Displaying various hues of yellow, orange, bright red and purple—often on the same branch—its foliage is a stand-out of the autumn season. Even the distinctive bark, which resembles alligator hide, adds visual and textural interest.

- Is known as one of the most attractive trees
- Provides stunning fall color in many shades of yellow, orange, red, and purple
- Develops bark that furrows with age, resembling alligator hide
- Serve as an important food source for bees, birds, and other wildlife

## **Mature Height**

30' - 50'

## **Mature Spread**

20' - 30'

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun, Partial Sun/Shade

## **Soil Preference**

Acidic, Loamy, Moist, Rich, Sandy, Silty Loam, Well Drained

## **Wildlife Value**

The fruit of the black tupelo attracts many bees, birds and wildlife.

## **Growth Speed**

Fast

# Chinkapin Oak

*Quercus muehlenbergii*



Chinkapin oak is native to the Midwest, where it is often found as a specimen planting or as part of a grouping of trees in parks and large areas. Chinkapin oaks are found on dry, limestone outcrops in the wild and perform well in alkaline soils. Its glossy, coarsely-toothed leaves are yellow-green and small compared to most oaks. Young trees retain a pyramidal to oval habit with a pale gray, scaly ridged central trunk. As trees age, the crown becomes more rounded.

**Mature Height**

40' - 50'

**Mature Spread**

40' - 50'

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun

**Soil Preference:** Dry soils especially soils of limestone origin including bluffs and hillsides but can also be found in valleys and near rocky streambanks

**Wildlife Value:** The acorns are highly prized by birds and mammals. Host to nearly 500 species of lepidoptera.

**Growth Speed**

Slow to moderate



# Common Elderberry

*Sambucus nigra*



Common elderberry is a large, multi-stemmed, native shrub with showy white flower clusters in mid-summer, followed by juicy, blue-black fruits. Plants are coarse and best used for naturalizing or as a back-of-the-border hedge.

**Mature Height**

Large shrub, 5-12 feet tall

**Mature Spread**

5-12 feet wide

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun

**Soil Preference:** Acid soil, Alkaline soil,  
Moist, well-drained soil

**Wildlife Value:** It provides food, cover, perching, and nesting sites for many species of birds and food and cover for various other wildlife, and it is important as browse for mule deer and elk. In the spring the leaves may be strongly scented and less palatable, but they sweeten and become more palatable by fall.

**Growth Speed**

Fast to moderate



# Gray Dogwood

*Cornus racemosa*



Gray dogwood is a thickly branched, slow growing dogwood seldom more than 6 feet high at maturity. Its flowers, which bloom in June or July, are white and loosely clustered, and its white fruit, which appears in September and October, is set off by bright red fruit-stalks.

**Mature Height**

Shrub, 5 feet

**Mature Spread**

10-15 feet, spreads

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun

**Soil Preference:** Alkaline soil, clay soil, Dry sites, Occasional drought, Occasional flooding, Wet sites

**Wildlife Value:** Gray dogwood is useful as a low-growing wild hedge which provides summer food and some cover for small animals and birds.

**Growth Speed**

Slow



# American Hazelnut

*Corylus americana*



The American hazelnut (also known as the American filbert) is a native shrub of the eastern United States. The tasty nuts are highly prized by cooks for their easy-to-crack shells and small, sweet kernel. Squirrels love them as well ... most likely for the same reasons. Hazelnut hedges can be used as windbreaks, visual screens, and to attract wildlife.

- Produces small, sweet nuts
- Provides good windbreak
- Must plant two shrubs for pollination

## **Mature Height**

15-18'

## **Mature Spread**

10-12'

**Sun Preference:** Full Sun, Partial Sun/Shade

**Soil Preference:** Acidic, Alkaline, Clay, Drought, Loamy, Moist, Rich, Sandy, Well Drained

**Wildlife Value:** The nuts produced by this shrub are preferred by squirrels, deer, turkey, woodpeckers, pheasants, grouse, quail and jays. The male catkins are a food staple of ruffed grouse throughout the winter.

## **Growth Speed**

Medium to fast

# Silky Dogwood

*Cornus Amomum*



Known for its stunning seasonal transformations, this versatile and hardy shrub is a valuable addition to any landscape. The Silky Dogwood provides many ecological benefits from erosion control to wildlife support. Its young stems have a characteristic silky, hairy texture giving it its common name.

- Produces small, mildly fragrant creamy-white flowers in the late spring
- By late summer, its flowers give way to small berry-like drupes that turn to a blue color once mature
- Native to the eastern and central United States
- Can tolerate full shade

**Mature Height**

6-10'

**Mature Spread**

6-12'

**Sun Preference:** Partial Sun/Shade, Full Sun

**Soil Preference:** Moist, Well Drained, Acidic, Rich

**Wildlife Value:** The abundant flowers of the Silky Dogwood benefit native pollinators, while its fruit is very attractive to birds. Mature plants provide habitat for birds and small mammals, and it is the larval host to the Spring Azure butterfly.

**Growth Speed:**  
Medium



# Pawpaw

*Asimina triloba*



Nodding, dark purple flowers in the spring, elongate edible fruit in the summer, and a yellow to yellow-green fall color add to the appeal of this small understory tree. The fruit of the pawpaw's flavor and flesh consistency resembles that of bananas.

**Mature Height**

15-20'

**Mature Spread**

15-20'

**Sun Preference:** Full sun to partial shade

**Soil Preference:** Moist, Well Drained soil

**Wildlife Value:** Pawpaws are ideally suited for the residential "edible" landscape due to

their lush, tropical appearance, attractive pyramidal growth form, small tree size, vibrant yellow fall color, few insect or disease pests, and fruit that possesses hints of subtropical flavors. In addition, pawpaws are suitable for butterfly gardens as they are the exclusive larval host plant of zebra swallowtails

**Growth Speed:**

Moderate

# Persimmon

*Diospyros virginiana*



Persimmon is native to the southeastern United States. Easily recognized in winter by its unusual rugged, blocky bark, it has thick, dark green leaves that turn a yellow fall color. Female trees produce large orange-brown fleshy fruit that are edible after the first frost. Native persimmon is not readily available in nurseries, but several selected cultivars are produced for their edible fruit.

## **Mature Height**

35-60'

## **Mature Spread**

20-35'

**Sun Preference:** Full sun to partial shade

**Soil Preference:** Moist, Well-Drained soil

**Wildlife Value:** More than 45 butterfly and moth species, including the Luna moth, lay their eggs on persimmon trees. Species like bear, deer, coyote, fox, raccoon, opossum, quail, squirrel, wild turkey and others have been known to consume the fruit.

**Growth Speed:**  
Slow



# Red Oak

*Quercus Rubra*



The northern red oak has been called “one of the handsomest, cleanest, and stately trees in North America” by naturalist Joseph S. Illick, and it is widely considered a national treasure. It is especially valued for its adaptability and usefulness, including its hardiness in urban settings. This medium to large tree is also known for its brilliant fall color, great value to wildlife, and status as the state tree of New Jersey. Whether you’re selecting a tree to plant in your front yard or out on the farm, it’s a fast-growing species worth keeping in mind.

**Mature Height**

60-75’

**Mature Spread**

50-75’

**Sun Preference:** Full sun

**Soil Preference:** Acidic, Clay, Drought, Loamy, Moist, Sandy, Well Drained

**Wildlife Value:** Acorns from this tree are at the top of the food preference list for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, small rodents, whitetail deer, raccoons and black bears. Deer also browse the buds and twigs in wintertime.

**Growth Speed:**

Fast

# Shagbark Hickory

*Carya Ovata*



Plant a shagbark hickory, a long-lived large tree with a straight trunk, in a large landscape for excellent shade. This Midwest native is named for its bark, which peels away in large, flat, curving plates, giving the tree a shaggy appearance. As a member of the walnut family, the hickory produces edible nuts.

**Mature Height**

60-80'

**Mature Spread**

30-50'

**Sun Preference:** Full sun to partial sun

**Soil Preference:** Moist, well-drained

**Wildlife Value:** Shagbark Hickory is a valuable food source for many animals. Over 100 insect species feed on the tree, providing ample food to native birds. Birds and squirrels eat the catkins in spring. During the growing season, a wide range of insects feeding on the foliage and twigs creates a buffet for all manner of insectivores.

**Growth Speed:**

Fast



# Washington Hawthorn

*Crataegus phaenopyrum*



The Washington hawthorn is a small, colorful tree that will brighten any landscape. Its pleasant display begins with reddish-purple leaves emerging in spring, then turning dark green as they are joined by a graceful display of white flowers. In autumn, the leaves turn orange, scarlet or purple. Red berries extend the colorful show into winter, often contrasting beautifully with the first winter snow.

- Displays late-blooming white flowers
- Develops vibrant fall color in orange, scarlet, or purple hues
- Produces bright red berries that keep into the winter

## **Mature Height**

25-30

## **Mature Spread**

30-50'

**Sun Preference:** Full sun

**Soil Preference:** Acidic, Alkaline, Clay, Drought, Loamy, Moist, Sandy, Well Drained, Wet

**Wildlife Value:** Shagbark Hickory is a valuable food source for many animals. Over 100 insect species feed on the tree, providing ample food to native birds. Birds and squirrels eat the catkins in spring. During the growing season, a wide range of insects feeding on the foliage and twigs creates a buffet for all manner of insectivores.

**Growth Speed:**  
Medium



# White Oak

*Quercus Alba*



This beautiful tree can be found presiding over pastures, providing shade in urban parks and suburban neighborhoods, and thriving in natural stands throughout the eastern United States and southeastern Canada. It is also the state tree of Connecticut, Illinois, and Maryland.

- Displays splendid red fall color
- Features a broad canopy
- Is suitable for large areas

## **Mature Height**

50-135'

## **Mature Spread**

50-80'

**Sun Preference:** Full sun to partial shade

**Soil Preference:** Acidic, Drought, Moist, Well Drained

**Wildlife Value:** Everything about the White Oak is essential for forest life. The nooks and

crannies of its bark harbors spiders and other insects whose lives then support birds such as warblers, nuthatches, and kinglets. A variety of beetle species live in the oaks as well. In the meantime, several woodpecker species will drill into the wood, plucking forth beetle larvae to feed themselves and their young. Holes left by woodpeckers then become sanctuaries for squirrels and screech owls and a host of other animals.

## **Growth Speed:**

Slow to medium