



SUGGESTED NATIVE TREE PLANTING LIST FOR MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP

(March 2024)

Prepared by: Engineering Department, Parks & Recreation Department and Shade Tree Committee

Notes:

1. Not all species listed are suitable for every location; property owners should do further research regarding their specific site conditions and needs. Consider the maximum/mature size, soil moisture, light requirements and canopy density of each species.
2. As a guide, those species listed as “Shade Trees” generally reach a mature height of greater than 50’; species listed as “Ornamental/Understory Trees” generally reach a mature height of less than 50’.
3. A diverse mix of species is recommended. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive; other native species will be considered. This list is subject to change as diseases or pests impact particular species.
4. Young trees are subject to deer browsing/rub and require tree protection (e.g. wire fencing, installed up to at least 4’ height). For complete specification of Township requirements, see Code Section 14-3.

SHADE TREES		
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMENTS
Basswood (aka American Linden)	<i>Tilia americana</i>	Large tree; fragrant flowers; fast growing
Birch, Black (aka Sweet Birch)**	<i>Betula lenta</i>	Can be planted in sites with moist soil, not too wet or dry; fall color
Birch, River	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Cinnamon-brown exfoliating bark; yellow fall color; tolerates moist conditions; fast-growing; deer resistant
Birch, Yellow	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	Can be planted in sites with moist soil (not too wet or dry)
Cherry, Black**	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Fragrant flowers; fruit is an important food source for birds
Elm, American*	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Large tree; select disease resistant varieties only; fast growing
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Interesting bark; seed is food source for wildlife; improved named varieties recommended; drought tolerant
Hickory, Bitternut**	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Because of tap root, small, container grown trees recommended; nut is valuable to wildlife; moist soil
Hickory, Mockernut**	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	Because of tap root, small, container-grown trees recommended
Hickory, Pignut**	<i>Carya glabra</i>	Because of tap root, small, container-grown trees recommended; nut is valuable to wildlife
Hickory, Shagbark**	<i>Carya ovata</i>	Because of tap root, small, container-grown trees recommended; nut is valuable to wildlife
Honeylocust*	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Improved, thornless varieties recommended
Magnolia, Cucumber (aka Cucumber tree)	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	Large tree; large leaves; green flowers
Maple, Red*	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Most common native tree; beautiful fall color
Maple, Sugar*	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Source of maple syrup; beautiful fall color
Oak, Bur	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Similar to White Oak; large tree; large acorns; fast growing; long lived

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Oak, Chestnut*/**	<i>Quercus montana</i>	Similar to White Oak; moist and dry soils
Oak, Chinkapin	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Small tree; part shade; dry to medium soils; fast growing
Oak, Overcup	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	Similar to White Oak; full sun; medium to wet soil
Oak, Swamp Chestnut	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	Similar to White Oak; part shade; moist soil; adaptable
Oak, Swamp White*	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Similar to White Oak; tolerates medium to moist soils; needs sun
Oak, White*	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Large, long-lived species; less susceptible to disease than Red Oak; wildlife food source; best tree for moths & butterflies; fall color
Oak, Willow	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Medium to large tree; fast growing; fall color; less susceptible to disease than other Red Oak species
Persimmon, American**	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	Good fall color; edible fruit for humans and wildlife; needs male and female trees to fruit
Sassafras**	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Aromatic leaves and bark; beautiful fall color
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Fruitless varieties available
Sycamore, American**	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Large, fast-growing tree; distinctive patchy bark; large seed balls are food source for birds
Tuliptree (aka Tulip Poplar)*	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Large, fast-growing; grows very tall; yellow-green flowers provide nectar for pollinators
Tupelo, Black or Sourgum*	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Medium size; exceptional scarlet-red fall color
Walnut, Black	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Because of tap root, small, container grown trees recommended; edible nut; may inhibit growth of other nearby species – suggest planting alone, away from gardens
Willow, Black	<i>Salix nigra</i>	Moist to wet soils; fast growing; fall color
Yellowwood, American*	<i>Caldrastis kentukea</i>	White, fragrant, pendulous May-June flowers

*Trees commonly used as street trees

**Species commonly utilized in naturalized areas; some species only available in smaller sizes

EVERGREEN TREES		
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMENTS
Cedar, Eastern Red	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Blue berries; tends to be deer resistant
Holly, American	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Bright red berries; male and female trees needed for berry production
Pine, Pitch	<i>Pinus rigida</i>	Full sun; can be planted in sites with moist soil (not too wet or dry)
Pine, Virginia	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	Hardy; fast growing; scrubby
Pine, White	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Fast growing; long lived tree; grows very tall; loses lower limbs with time

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ORNAMENTAL / UNDERSTORY TREES		
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMENTS
Dogwood, Flowering	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Understory tree, similar to Eastern Redbud but rounder shape; 4 seasons of interest; fruit is food source for wildlife; select disease-resistant varieties; fall color; spring flowers
Dogwood, Pagoda	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Irregular lateral branching structure; 4 seasons of interest; fruit is food source for wildlife; fall color
Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Clusters of sweet-smelling white spring flowers; fruit is a food source for wildlife
Hawthorn, Green	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	Fragrant white spring flowers; red berries persist through winter; 'Winter King' variety recommended
Hophornbeam, American or Eastern	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Tolerates a wide variety of conditions; excellent wildlife food source; yellow fall color; keeps brown leaves in winter
Hornbeam, American	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Short trunk, smooth blue-gray bark; colorful fall color
Magnolia, Sweetbay	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Large, sweetly fragrant creamy white flowers May-June; green leaf with silvery underside
Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Large leaves; edible fruit for humans and wildlife; needs two trees to fruit; somewhat deer-resistant
Redbud, Eastern	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Purple flowers before leaves; drought-tolerant; usually deer-resistant
Serviceberry, Allegheny	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Larger version of Shadblow Serviceberry; beautiful flowers; susceptible to apple-cedar rust; fall color
Serviceberry, Downy	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Understory tree, can be planted in sites with moist soil (not too wet or dry); susceptible to apple-cedar rust; fall color
Serviceberry, Shadblow	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Early blooming white flowers appear before leaves emerge; red-orange fall color; susceptible to apple-cedar rust; fall color
Silverbell, Carolina	<i>Halesia carolina</i>	Large white, bell-shaped flowers that hang in clusters, 4-winged fruit; fall color
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboretum</i>	Lily of the valley-like white flowers in June-July; excellent fall color

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