

West Cape May Shade Tree Commission

List of Approved Trees

Native trees, shrubs and vines offer critical food and cover for wildlife. They also thrive with the least amount of care. Non-native ornamentals require excessive water and fertilizer just to stay alive, and do not thrive as readily as native vegetation. This is an important consideration with successive drought years and water shortage problems. Many non-native ornamentals have no food value for wildlife. Native evergreens provide cover year-round, offering safe refuge from predators and bad weather, nesting sites and a place to roost through the night.

The trees listed here are urban and salt tolerant with a high wildlife benefit. They have been specifically selected by the West Cape May Shade Tree Commission for planting in our community. Utility friendly trees stay small and are suitable for planting under utility wires. Some of the trees noted as utility friendly may not be appropriate as street trees but could be planted under utility wires in yards, open areas or parks.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	AESTHETIC QUALITY AND ISA SPECIES RATING	MATURE SIZE CLASS	STREET OR LAWN CLASS	PLANT SALT TOLERANCE AND LIMITATIONS	ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT- BIRD BENEFIT (# OF BIRDS)	NOTES
A							
B							
American Beech	Fagus grandifolia		LARGE			25	50-70'
Black or Sweet birch	Betula lenta		MEDIUM/LARGE			13	40-60'
Gray birch	Betula populifolia		MEDIUM	LAWN		14	20-40'
Yellow birch	Betula lutea		LARGE			13	60-80'
Butternut	Juglans cinerea		MEDIUM/LARGE			11	40-60'

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C							
Eastern red cedar	Juniperus virginiana		MEDIUM	LAWN		32	40-50'
Black cherry	Prunus serotina		LARGE	LAWN		53	50-80'
Cherry	Prunus ssp		MEDIUM	STREET OR LAWN		42	
Pin or Fire Cherry	P. pensylvanica					42	
Chokecherry	P. virginiana		SMALL	LAWN		43	20-30' Utility Friendly
Crab Apple	Malus spp		SMALL	LAWN		26	15-20' Utility Friendly
D							
Flowering Dogwood	Cornus florida		SMALL	LAWN		34	15-30' Utility Friendly
E							
Elm	Ulmus ssp		LARGE	LAWN		18	
G							
Sour Gum or Black Tupelo	Nyssa slyvatica		MEDIUM	STREET OR LAWN		34	30-50'
Sweet Gum	Liquidamber styraciflua		MEDIUM/LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		21	40-60'
H							
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis		MEDIUM/LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		25	40-60'
Dwarf Hackberry	Celtis tenuifolia					25	

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Mockernut Hickory	Carya tomentosa		LARGE			19	60-80'
Pignut Hickory	Carya glabra		LARGE			19	70-90'
Shagbark Hickory	Carya ovata		LARGE			19	70-90'
American Holly	Ilex opaca		MEDIUM	LAWN		13	40-50'
American Hornbeam	Carpinus caroliniana		SMALL	STREET OR LAWN		10	20-35' Utility Friendly
M							
Sweet bay magnolia	Magnolia virginiana		SMALL	LAWN			10-35'
Red Maple	Acer rubrum		MEDIUM/LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		5	40-60'
Silver Maple	Acer saccharinum		LARGE	LAWN		4	50-80'
Sugar maple	Acer saccharum		LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		5	60-75'
Red Mulberry	Morus rubra		MEDIUM	LAWN		44	35-50'
O							
Black Oak	Quercus Velutina		LARGE			29	50-60'
Pin Oak	Quercus palustris		LARGE			29	60-70'
Post oak	Quercus stellata		MEDIUM	STREET OR LAWN		29	35-50'

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Red oak	Quercus rubra		LARGE			29	60-75'
Scrub Oat	Quercus ilicifolia					29	
Spanish Oak	Quercus falcata		LARGE			29	60-80'
Swamp white oak	Quercus bicolor		LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		29	50-60'
White oak	Quercus alba		LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		29	50-80'
Willow oak	Quercus phellos		MEDIUM/LARGE			29	40-60'
P							
Persimmon	Diospyros virginiana		MEDIUM/LARGE	LAWN		15	30-80'
Pitch pine	Pinus rigida		LARGE	STREET OR LAWN		28	50-60'
R							
Red Bud	Cercis canadensis		SMALL				20-30' Utility Friendly
S							
Sassafras	Sassafras albidum		MEDIUM	STREET OR LAWN		23	35-50'
Serviceberry	Amalanchier ssp		SMALL	LAWN		38	15-30' Utility Friendly

Updated 11/8/19