

Baltimore City Street Tree Species List 3/23/2018



Thank you for your interest in Baltimore City's trees! Please get permission from the Urban Forestry Division before planting a tree in a public right of way. We promise to make this as easy and painless as possible. If a permit is required, it is free. We will add your new tree(s) to the Baltimore City tree inventory, plus we want to be sure you select a species that is appropriate for your location. Here are a few things to consider:

- Native species provide more benefits than non-native species. For larger plantings, at least half should be native.
- We need diversity and prefer a variety of species. For larger plantings, no single species should be more than 20% of the mix.
- Large shade trees provide more benefits than small trees and should be planted where there is room. Please remember, Baltimore's goal is to reach 40% tree canopy cover.
- Some species that are not listed are acceptable. Check with the Urban Forestry Division.
- Minimum size at planting time is a 1 inch diameter trunk. If the planting is part of a construction or development project, or for environmental mitigation, a larger size may be dictated by the applicable regulations.
- Please follow the current City specifications for tree pit size, soil, planting, and maintenance.
- Continued maintenance over several years is key to a successful planting. This includes weeding, mulching and straightening. Routine watering of your new tree is the most important thing that you can do.
- We review the species list and specifications every couple years. Please send your comments, and contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

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Search for "Baltimore City Forestry Division"

Common Name	Species	Native Exotic	Spread (feet)	Height (feet)	Comments
<i>For this list, native is a regional term. For example, Red Maples and Sweet Gums weren't originally found in Baltimore, but are termed native because they grew in Maryland.</i>					
Small Street Tree Species for Under Powerlines					
<i>Hybrids, redwoods and ginkgoes aren't defined.</i>					
Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergeranum</i>	E	25 to 30	25 to 30	
Hedge Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	E	30 to 35	25 to 30	
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	E	20 to 25	20 to 30	
Three Flower Maple	<i>Acer triflorum</i>	E	20 to 30	20 to 30	
Shantung Maple	<i>Acer truncatum</i>	E	20 to 25	20 to 25	
Red Buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	N	15 to 25	25 to 30	
Shadblow Serviceberry*	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	N	15 to 20	20 to 25	
Allegheny Serviceberry*	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	N	10 to 15	15 to 25	
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	N	15 to 25	20 to 30	Overplanted and short lived, consider alternative species
Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	N			Only one known case of attack by EAB, continue to review.
Kousa Dogwood*	<i>Cornus kousa</i>	E	15 to 20	15 to 20	
Cornelian cherry dogwood	<i>Cornus mas</i>	E	15 to 20	15 to 25	Tends to be multi-trunk and shrub like

Common Name	Species	Native Exotic	Spread (feet)	Height (feet)	Comments
English Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	E	15 to 25	20 to 25	Toba' and 'Crimson Cloud' are more resistant to hawthorn rust
Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i> var. <i>inermis</i>	N	20 to 30	20 to 30	Thornless
Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	N	20 to 25	20 to 35	
Southern Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	N	20 to 30	20 to 30	
Lavalle Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus x lavallei</i>		15 to 25	20 to 30	
Crape-Myrtle*	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	E	15 to 25	10 to 30	Check cultivar for height and spread
Little Gem Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Little Gem'	N	10 to 15	20 to 30	There are other small, narrow cultivars
Star Magnolia*	<i>Magnolia kobus</i> var. <i>stellata</i>	E	10 to 15	15 to 20	
Sweetbay Magnolia\ Bay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	N	12 to 20	12 to 20	There are larger cultivars that can reach 50' tall
Saucer Magnolia*	<i>Magnolia x soulangeana</i>	E	20 to 25	20 to 30	
Persian Ironwood	<i>Parrotia persica</i>	E	20 to 30	20 to 40	'Vanessa' is a columnar form
Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	E	25 to 35	25 to 35	
Flowering Purple Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	E	15 to 20	20 to 30	
Kwanzan Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i> "Kwanzan"	E	15 to 25	20 to 30	Low branches can cause problems
Okame' Cherry	<i>Prunus x incamp</i> 'Okame'	E	15 to 20	15 to 20	
Yoshino Cherry	<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i>	E	30 to 40	30 to 35	
Japanese Snowbell	<i>Styrax japonicus</i>	E	20 to 30	20 to 30	
Japanese Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	E	15 to 18	20 to 30	
Korean Evodia	<i>Tetradium danielli</i>	E	25 to 30	25 to 30	Recently reclassified & renamed, was <i>Evodia danielii</i>
Blackhaw Viburnum*	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	N	8 to 12	12 to 15	
Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum*	<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	N	20 to 25	20 to 25	

* Due to naturally low or multi-limb structure, these species may only be planted in open wide areas unless trained to a single trunk. Check with the Urban Forestry Division.

Medium and Large Street Tree Species

Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	N	25 to 35	60 to 75	Overplanted, consider alternative species
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	N	35 to 50	50 to 75	Avoid northern cultivars\ avoid in harsh locations
Legacy Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i> "Legacy"	N	30 to 40	40 to 50	Southern cultivar, avoid in harsh locations
Florida Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i> var. <i>floridum</i>	N	30 to 40	40 to 50	Formerly <i>Acer barbatum</i> , sugar maple from Florida
Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	E	40 to 50		
Armstrong Maple	<i>Acer x freemanii</i> "Armstrong"		15 to 25	50 to 60	Overplanted, consider alternative species
Red Maple 'Autumn Blaze'	<i>Acer x freemanii</i> "Autumn Blaze"		30 to 50	50 to 60	Overplanted, consider alternative species
Ruby Red Horsechestnut	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	E	30 to 40	35 to 45	"Fort McNair" shows some resistance to leaf blotch
Allegheny Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	N	15 to 20	30 to 40	
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	N	25 to 35	40 to 50	Single trunk only. Multi-trunks may be planted in medians.
European Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	E	30 to 40	40 to 60	
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	N	20 to 35	35 to 50	
Common Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	N	40 to 50	40 to 55	
Katsura	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	E	20 to 40	40 to 60	
American Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	N	25 to 35	25 to 40	
Turkish Filbert	<i>Corylus colurna</i>	E	20 to 25	40 to 50	Nice but not always available
Hardy Rubber Tree	<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>	E	25 to 35	40 to 60	Said to be very hardy and drought resistant
Ginkgo, male only	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> (male)		50 to 60	50 to 75	
Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i>	N	35 to 50	60 to 70	Only thornless varieties (i.e. inermis)
Kentucky Coffee Tree male	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	N	40 to 50	70 to 80	avoid females which drop beans

Common Name	Species	Native Exotic	Spread (feet)	Height (feet)	Comments
SweetGum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	N	35 to 50	60 to 75	Drops sweetgum balls
'Rotundiloba' Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> 'Rotundiloba'	N	35 to 45	50 to 70	Or other seedless cultivars\ large % revert & produce gum balls.
Osage Orange male	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>		35 to 60	35 to 60	Thornless males preferred, females produce large solid green fruits
White Shield Osage Orange	<i>Maclura pomifera</i> "White Shield"		30 to 35	30 to 35	Male, thornless, smaller
Southern Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	N	30 to 50	60 to 80	Evergreen
'Henry Hicks' Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> 'Henry Hicks'	N	15 to 25	40 to 50	Evergreen \ Smaller cultivar
Black gum \ Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	N	30 to 40	30 to 50	
American Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	N	25 to 30	30 to 40	
American Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	N	50 to 80	80 to 100	
Oriental Planetree	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	E	50 - 60	70 - 80	
Sycamore, all species	<i>Platanus spp.</i>				Check w\ Forestry Division, most sycamore species are acceptable
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>		50 to 70	70 to 85	
Sargent Cherry	<i>Prunus sargentii</i>	E	15 to 20	25 to 40	
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	N	60 to 80	80 to 90	Maryland State Tree
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	N	50 to 70	50 to 70	Establishes well
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	N	50 to 60	75 to 90	Avoid in harsh locations
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	N	60 to 75	50 to 75	
Southern Red Oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	N	60 to 70	60 to 80	
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	N	40 to 60	40 to 60	
Laurel Oak	<i>Quercus laurifolius</i>	N	35 to 45	60 to 80	
Overcup Oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	N	30 to 40	30 to 40	
Burr Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	N	60 to 80	70 to 90	
Chinquapin Oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	N	60 to 80	40 to 50	
Nuttall oak	<i>Quercus nutallii</i>	N	35 to 50	60 to 80	
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	N	40 to 50	60 to 80	Lower branches must be repeatedly pruned
Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	N	40 to 50	50 to 75	
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>	N	50 to 70	50 to 70	
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	E	40 to 60	50 to 60	Check cultivar for height and spread
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	N	40 - 60	40 - 60	
Oak Species	<i>Quercus spp.</i>				Oaks promote biodiversity \ Most species are acceptable
Regal Prince Oak	<i>Quercus x warei</i> "Regal Prince"	E	20 to 25	40 to 60	Columnar
Pond Cypress	<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	N	20 to 25	40 to 60	Similar to Bald Cypress with less spread.
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	N	20 to 30	50 to 100	Deciduous conifer
Silver Linden	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	N	40 to 60	50 to 70	
American Linden	<i>Tilia americana</i>	N	30 to 45	75 to 90	
Crimean Linden	<i>Tilia X euchlora</i>		20 to 30	40 to 60	
American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i> DED resistant cultivars	N	50 to 70	70 to 90	
Slippery Elm	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	N	30 to 50	60 to 80	
Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	E	50 to 60	60 to 80	Overplanted, consider alternative species

Trees for Wide Medians--15' or Wider (all species listed above may also be planted on medians)

Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus flava</i>	N	30 to 50	60 to 75	Drops nuts, good for less trafficed areas
Ohio buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	N	40 to 50	50 to 75	Drops nuts, good for less trafficed areas
Catalpa (southern)	<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	N	20 to 40	40 to 60	Drops flowers, big leaves and pods

Common Name	Species	Native Exotic	Spread (feet)	Height (feet)	Comments
Catalpa (northern)	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	N	20 to 40	50 to 70	Drops flowers, big leaves and pods
Persimmons	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	N	30 to 40	40 to 60	Drops fruit, good for wildlife
Kentucky Coffee Tree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	N	40 to 50	70 to 80	Females drop beans
Carolina Silverbell	<i>Halesia carolina</i>	N	15 to 30	30 to 40	May be sensitive to urban stress
Crabapple	<i>Malus spp.</i>	N/E			Bears fruit, good for biodiversity, all species function as native
Dawn Redwood	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>		25 to 50	70 to 100	Huge tree, must have plenty of room\ deciduous conifer

Trees Not to be Planted Along Baltimore Streets

Check with The Urban Forestry Division if one of these species is needed to infill an existing landscape design.

Box Elder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	N			Storm Damage\ Structural problems
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	N			Storm Damage\ Structural problems
Norway Maple --all varieties	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Silk Tree\ Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Japanese Angelica Tree	<i>Aralia elata</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Paper Mulberry	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Autumn Olive\ Russian Olivee	<i>Elaeagnus umbellat</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
White Ash -- all varities	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	N			Blighted by Emerald Ash Borer
Green Ash -all varities	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Summit'</i>	N			Blighted by Emerald Ash Borer
Ash -- all species	<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>				Blighted by Emerald Ash Borer
Ginkgo female	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>				Fruit has bad odor, plant males
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	N			Drops nuts, good for less trafficed areas in parks
Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	N			Storm Damage\ Structural problems
White Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Paulownia \ Princess Tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	N			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Amur Cork	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Poplars	<i>Populus (all species)</i>				Storm Damage\ Structural problems
Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	N			Messy & structural problems, good for parks and wild areas
Calery Pear --all cultivars	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Sawthooth Oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	N			Storm Damage\ Structural problems
All Willows	<i>Salix spp.</i>				Storm Damage\ Structural problems
Scholar Tree	<i>Sophora japonica</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	E			Over planted & does not do well in many locations
Chinese Elm, all cultivars	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore
Siberian Elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	E			Invasive: do not plant anywhere in Baltimore