

Reasons for planting trees and shrubs vary between landowners. Whether you are thinking of planting for aesthetics, wildlife, to eat, or to generally improve your property, we can you choose the best species for your goals and your location. Not every species works in every situation, so let us know what you want to do and where you live, and we will be glad to help direct you to what should work the best.

Evergreens

American Arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis*- Survives in a variety of conditions, long lived, medium sized. Makes for great windbreaks, animal habitat, and privacy.

Norway Spruce, *Picea abies*–Quick growing, long lived with dense foliage. Does not do well on dry or deficient soils. This tree is commonly used for windbreaks and reforestation.

White Pine, *Pinus strobus*–Occurs in a variety of conditions, prefers acidic, moist, deep soils. Good for bird nesting sites and wind breaks in younger trees.

Shrubs/Small Trees

American Hazelnut, *Corylus americana*– This large shrub prefers well drained sites, flowers early so will only have large nut crops every 4-5 years, prefers full sun. It is great habitat for birds but also provides edible nuts to humans. This tree is an important food source for a wide range of wildlife from grouse to deer.

American Plum, *Prunus americana*- Fast growing, small tree/large shrub, tolerates wide variety of soils and sites and prefers being open grown. Pale pink flowers in spring, medium sized edible fruit, very good animal habitat and food sources. Can form thickets.

Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus florida*- Slow growing, pink to white flowers in spring, red berries in fall, prefers well drained soils and is shade tolerant. This is an ornate tree that can add color to any area.

Paw Paw, *Asimina triloba*- Quick growing, small tree, prefers shade when young but not when older. Produces maroon flowers in the spring and has browse resistant leaves. This tree produces large edible fruit. Can be difficult to establish but the payoff is well worth it.

Large Trees

American Beech, *Tilia americana*- Slow growing tree that is adaptable but prefers rich, well drained soils. This shade tolerant tree is partially hollow and can provide a habitat for wildlife as well supply wildlife with a small nut.

Buckeye, Ohio, *Aesculus glabra*- Medium growth rate that prefers moist, well-drained soils of variable pH. Produces showy, yellow flowers in early spring as well as buckeye nuts every year.

Chinkapin Oak, *Quercus muehlenbergii*- Small to medium sized for an oak, slow growing and long lived, prefers well drained sites. A member of the white oak group, this tree is very attractive to wildlife for its nut production, the acorn is one of the sweetest. The leaves look similar to the chestnut and chestnut oak.

Honey Locust (thornless), *Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis*- Medium sized, quick growing, tolerant of most situations. This variety is thornless and provides a much nicer version to plant around a house. Seeds are used by squirrels, deer and some birds.

Persimmon, *Diospyros virginiana*- Slow growing, medium sized tree, very versatile to site conditions. Consistent edible fruit production, high wildlife use, bright yellow fall color, white flower.

Red Maple, *Acer rubrum*- A little smaller than the Sugar Maple, this tree prefers more sunlight, it is adaptable to a wide range of soil types and areas with use as a shade tree and a source of seeds for wildlife.

Red Oak, *Quercus rubra*- Medium to large tree, long lived and fast growing, somewhat tolerant to shade and drought but not to flooding. Widely grown and can be an important timber species as well as an important source of food for deer.

River Birch, *Betula nigra*- Medium sized, fast growing allowing for quick shade, prefers wet sites but tolerates many, also prefers acidic soil. The papery looking bark and weeping lower branches cause this tree to be widely planted for its aesthetics.

Sugar Maple, *Acer saccharum*- Medium sized, fast growing, prefers well drained soil and tolerates shady conditions. Many species of wildlife will utilize this tree and it is prized for syrup and timber production.

Swamp White Oak, *Quercus bicolor*– This medium white oak grows quickly, prefers wet sites and open grown. This tree produces large acorns regularly, eaten by many wildlife species especially waterfowl.

Shagbark Hickory, *Carya ovata*- This slow growing, long lived tree prefers well-drained soils under sunny conditions and has superior drought tolerance. Wildlife utilize nuts as a good food source.

Sycamore, *Platanus occidentalis*- This medium to fast growing tree prefers well drained to moderately drained soils and is often found naturally along bodies of water or wet areas.

Tulip Poplar, *Liriodendron tulipifera*- A tall, quick growing tree that prefers deep well drained soils. It is an important tree in timber production and also makes for a very nice landscaping tree. This tree has a large showy yellow flower in the spring.

White Oak, *Quercus alba*– Can get to massive proportions, long lived, and grows best in the open with moist but not wet soils, resistant to drought. Acorn production is variable but will occasionally have bumper crop, commonly seen throughout the Midwest, utilized by wildlife as a food source.