

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 let 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.

Eastern Red-cedar, *Juniperus virginiana* – It is a pioneer invader of forests that have been clear-cut and fields that have been strip-mined. By far the most common pathogens seen on Redcedar are the rusts, while harmless to Redcedar, the rust spores that are released will invade hawthorns, quinces, apples, and other Rose Family members, infecting them and often destroying their fruits.

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.

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.

Ninebark, *Physocarpus opulifolius* - Named for its unusual bark which peels in strips to reveal several layers of reddish to light brown inner bark, Ninebark is a popular 'winter interest' shrub, makes an excellent hedge plant and provides good erosion control.

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.

Redbud, *Cercis canadensis* - It heralds the arrival of spring with its showy, lavender-pink flowers that typically open in April, long before the foliage emerges.

Large Trees

American Beech, *Fagus grandifolia* - 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.

American Basswood, *Tilia americana* – Somewhat fast growing, is a favorite tree of bees as they extract nectar from its flowers, making a very high-quality honey in the process.

Chinese Chestnut, *Castanea mollissima* - Planted today for the production of its chestnuts, which serve as a replacement for those from American Chestnut. Does well in open areas including strip-mined ground. The hard mast provides great wildlife food.

Downy Serviceberry, *Amelanchier arborea* - grows in a variety of habitats, very good wildlife tree, especially for birds. One of the first trees to flower in the spring making it a great pollinator tree.

Butternut (white walnut), *Juglans cinerea* - this relative of Black Walnut is slower growing and much less frequently encountered, its kernel within the fruit gives it the common name of Butternut, as it is sweet and oily.

Bur Oak, *Quercus macrocarpa* – Does well in strip mined soils, is slow growing. The bark tends to have a corky coating and the bark on larger specimens becomes very furrowed. Does well in the open.

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

Red Mulberry, *Morus rubra* – Fast growing, does well in wetter soil all around but also wet strip-mined ground. Great wildlife tree for birds and pollinators.

Red Oak, *Quercus rubra* - Medium to large tree, long lived and fast growing, generally does well in drier upland soils. Widely grown and can be an important timber species as well as an important source of food for deer.

Sugar Maple, *Acer saccharum* - Medium sized, fast growing, prefers well drained soil and tolerates shady conditions. It is prized for syrup and timber production.

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.

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.

Black Walnut, *Juglans nigra* – Very sought-after timber tree, grows well in moist alluvial soils, slower growing in drier soils. Produces large nut, that is great for wildlife.