

TREE PROGRAM



CHAMPAIGN
PARK DISTRICT

SPRING SPECIES LIST

■ DECIDUOUS TREES

Yellow Buckeye *Aesculus flava*

Large shade tree with beautiful clusters of yellow-green flowers in spring. Fruit is similar to a horse chestnut. Some resistance to leaf blotch. For shady, sheltered sites, not next to paths, parking. Native to USA.

River Birch *Betula nigra*

Graceful shade tree with exfoliating cinnamon colored bark. Heat tolerant, resistant to bronze birch borer. Floodplain tree, needs full sun, not drought tolerant, grows best in moist/wet sites. Native to Southern Illinois.

Pecan *Carya illinoensis*

A rugged shade tree with handsome pinnately compound leaves, yellow fall color. This tree yields pecans in the fall. "Can be messy, not for areas next to walks or parking. A bottomland forest tree, best in full sun. Illinois native.

Northern Catalpa *Catalpa speciosa*

Large, formal tree with heart shaped leaves and clusters of showy flowers in early summer. Tough tree, tolerant of varied pH and poor soil quality. Can be messy, not for areas next to walks or water features. Native to Illinois.

Hackberry *Celtis occidentalis*

A big tough shade tree found in floodplain forests. It has interesting bark and fruit for birds. Full sun, tolerates exposed sites, varied soil conditions, range of soil pH. Native to Illinois.

Yellowwood *Cladrastis kentukea*

Shade tree with showy white flowers, smooth gray bark, leaves turn yellow in fall. Sun or shade, not pH sensitive. Native to southern Illinois.

American Beech *Fagus grandifolia*

Shade tree with beautiful smooth gray bark, yellow-gold fall color, Grows in mature mesic forest. Partial - full shade. Avoid exposed sites, compacted, soggy, high pH soil. Native to Illinois.

Ginkgo (Male Only) *Ginkgo biloba*

A shade tree of ancient lineage, very few problems. Clear yellow fall color, fan-shaped leaves often drop almost simultaneously after a hard frost. Full sun. Exotic, not considered invasive.

Kentucky Coffeetree *Gymnocladus dioica*

Striking, picturesque shade tree with very large compound leaves. Full sun, tolerant of poor, compacted soils and a range of pH conditions. Young trees don't have many branches. Native to Illinois.

Sweet Gum *Liquidambar styraciflua*

Shade tree with star-shaped leaves and excellent fall color. Spiny fruit - restricted siting. Bottomland forest tree. Full sun, avoid high pH sites. Native to Illinois.

Tulip Tree *Liriodendron tulipifera*

A formal, symmetrical shade tree, with lobed leaves and green/orange tulip-shaped flowers. Native to cove forests. Full sun, pH adaptable, not drought/flood tolerant. Native to Southeastern Illinois.

Black Tupelo *Nyssa sylvatica*

A picturesque, densely branched, shade tree with glossy leaves and intense red-orange fall color. Full sun - partial shade, moist to average soil, intolerant of high pH soil. Native to southeastern Illinois.

Overcup Oak *Quercus lyrata*

Majestic shade tree, with glossy foliage, bronze fall color. Adaptable, site-tolerant tree. Full sun - part shade. Native to Illinois.

Swamp Chestnut Oak *Quercus michauxii*

Large shade tree with bronze-red fall color. Full sun, tolerates moist, poorly drained sites. Acid soil best. Large, low-tannin acorns attract wildlife. Native to Illinois.

Chinkapin Oak *Quercus muehlenbergii*

Shade tree, an oak of limestone ridges, very pH tolerant. Good urban tree. Native to Illinois.

Baldcypress *Taxodium distichum*

Large deciduous conifer with delicate foliage, tawny-orange fall color. Does best in moist sites, needs full sun. Native to Illinois.

Basswood *Tilia americana*

A large shade tree with big, heart-shaped leaves and fragrant yellow flowers. This tree is a magnet for pollinators. Sun-part shade, pH adaptable. Native to Illinois.

■ DECIDUOUS TREES (CONTINUED)

Silver Linden *Tilia tomentosa*

A shade tree contrasting green (upper surface) and white (lower surface) heart shaped leaves. Abundant, fragrant flowers in early summer. Good resistance to Japanese beetle. Full sun, moist, well drained soil. Exotic, not listed as invasive.

Hybrid Elm *Ulmus x hybrida*

These large, fast growing shade trees were developed as replacements for the American Elm. Full sun, grows well on most soils, a good choice for new developments. Exotic, not considered invasive

- 'Frontier' Vase shaped, disease resistant, red-purple fall color
- 'Pioneer' Yellow fall color, disease resistant
- 'Patriot' Narrow, vase shaped, disease resistant, yellow fall color

■ SMALL DECIDUOUS TREES

Shadbush *Amelanchier sp.*

An elegant small tree with showy white flowers in the spring and brilliant orange-red foliage in the fall. Edible fruit in early summer. Mesic site best, with some shelter. Native to Illinois.

Eastern Redbud *Cercis canadensis*

A small flowering tree with purple, pink or white flowers and heart-shaped leaves that turn gold in the fall. Often develops a picturesque form. An understory forest tree. Moist, well drained soil, sun to shade, not drought tolerant. Native to Illinois.

Butterflies Magnolia *Magnolia 'Butterflies'*

A medium-sized tree, hybridized from the cucumbertree magnolia. Abundant, creamy yellow flowers before leaves emerge in spring. Sheltered site.

Loebner Magnolia *Magnolia x loebneri*

A tough, hybrid magnolia, with pink or white flowers in spring. Flowers open before leaves emerge. Sheltered site best, full sun for best flowering. Exotic, not considered invasive.

Sweetbay Magnolia *Magnolia virginiana*

An evergreen native magnolia that flowers in late spring, after new leaves emerge. Flowers are creamy white, fragrant. Leaves are glossy green, with a white underside. The red coated seeds are attractive to birds. Sheltered locations best. Tolerates wet sites. Native to United States.

Japanese Tree Lilac *Syringa reticulata*

A small, formal flowering tree with showy white clusters of flowers at the tips of the branches. - not "lilac scented". pH adaptable, sun for best flowering. Exotic, can be invasive in forested areas.

■ EVERGREEN TREES

Hetz Columnar Juniper *Juniperus chinensis*

Hetzii Columnaris

A silvery green, columnar evergreen, with delicate blue-green needles and abundant cones. Exotic, not listed as invasive.

Norway Spruce *Picea abies*

A big, reliable evergreen, with dark green needles. It often has drooping branches, which help to shed snow and ice. Full sun, moist, slightly acidic soil, does well in exposed sites. Exotic, not listed as invasive.

Serbian Spruce *Picea omorica*

An evergreen conifer that has dark green needles with showy white undersides. Adaptable, tolerates some shade, pH tolerant. Exotic, not listed as invasive.

For more information about these trees, visit the Missouri Botanical Garden's Plant Finder Page

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>

The Morton Arboretum website is also helpful

<https://mortonarb.org/plant-and-protect/trees-and-plants>
