

COLUMBIA RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

UTILITY APPROVED TREES

The following trees were selected for average and low maintenance, general insect and disease resistance and beauty. The sizes listed represent the average mature size depending on its specific genetics, the site, and environmental factors. Many common shade trees are not listed because they grow too large and do not fit well in restricted locations. Other trees may be acceptable, but remember to select a tree species that at maturity will not outgrow its location. Be sure the trunk and branches will not reach within 10 feet of overhead conductors when fully grown.

Hedge Maple, *Acer Campestre*

Slow growing to 30' tall and 30' wide in cultivation. Forms an especially dense, compact, rounded head with leaves turning yellow in fall.

Amur Maple, *Acer Ginnala*

Fast growing small tree to 20' tall and 20' wide. Have small yellow fragrant flowers in spring and leaves turn brilliant red in fall.

Paper Bark Maple, *Acer Griseum*

Grows to 25' tall and 18' wide with narrow to rounded crown. Leaves dark green above, silvery below, which turn brilliant red in fall. Reddish bark peels away from trunk.

Japanese Maple, *Acer Palmatum*

Slow growing to 20' tall and 20' wide normally with many stems. Young spring growth is glowing red, summer's leaves are soft green, and fall foliage is scarlet, orange, or yellow.

Globe Maple, *Acer Platanoides* "Globosum"

Slow growing form of Norway maple with dense, round crown, eventual size 30' tall and 30' wide with leaves turning yellow in fall.

Columnar Norway Maple, *Acer Platanoides* "Columnar"

Slow growing medium height tree that is narrower than species, reaching 40' tall and 20' wide. Leaves deep green above, paler beneath and turn yellow in fall.

Parkway Norway Maple, *Acer Platanoides* "Columnar broad"

A faster growing and broader form of Columnar Norway Maple. Pyramidal to oval shape with eventual size 40' tall and 25' wide.

Bowhall Maple, *Acer Rubrum* "Bowhall"

Medium to fast growth to 40' tall and 15' wide. Tall narrow cone shaped with orange red foliage color in fall.

Scanlon Red Maple, *Acer Rubrum* "Scanlon"

Medium to fast growth rate to 35' tall and 15' wide with slightly pyramidal shape with age. Brilliant orange red color in fall.

English Hawthorn, *Crataegus Laevigata* "Paul's Scarlet"

Moderate growth to 25' tall and 15' wide with thorny branches. Has spring flowers of double rose to red color followed by showy fruit in fall.

Carriere Hawthorn, *Crataegus x Lavallei*

Moderate growth to 25' tall and 20' wide with few thorns on branches. Has spring flowers of white color followed by small orange-red fruit in fall. More erect and open than other hawthorns.

Washington Hawthorn, *Crataegus Phaenopyrum*

Moderate growth to 25' tall and 20' wide with thorny branches. Have small white flowers in spring, shiny red fruit in fall and winter. Leaves turn orange and red in fall. More graceful and delicate than other hawthorns.

European Hornbeam, *Carpinus Betulus* "Fastigiata"

Slow to moderate growth to 35' tall and 20' wide with dark green leaves that turn yellow or dark red in cold winters.

Saucer Magnolia, *Magnolia x Soulangiana* Cultivars

Very slow growth to 25' tall and 25' wide with white to pink or purplish red flowers.

Star Magnolia, *Magnolia x Stellata* Cultivars

Slow growing to 10' tall and 20' wide with large fragrant white flowers in early spring.

Eastern Redbud, *Cercis Canadensis*

Medium slow growth to 30' tall and 25' wide. White, pink, or red flowers are borne in great profusion on bare twigs, branches, and trunk in early spring.

Golden Desert Ash, *Fraxinus Oxycarpa* "Golden Desert"

Fast growing to 30' tall and 20' wide with bright gold leaves in spring and fall. Also includes golden hue to the bark and black fuzzy buds.

Leprechaun Ash, *Fraxinus Pennsylvanica* "Leprechaun"

Moderate growth to 20' tall and 15' wide with gray brown bark and green leaves.

Autumn Applause Ash *Fraxinus Americana* "Autumn Applause"

Moderate growth to 40' tall and 25' wide with dark green leaves that turn deep purple in fall.

Common Smoke tree, *Cotinus Coggryria*

Moderate to slow growth to 25' tall and 25' wide with bluish green leaves that turn orange or red in fall. Dramatic puffs of purple or lavender "smoke" come from loose cluster of fading flowers.

Japanese Tree Lilac, *Syringa Reticulata*

Moderate growth to 30' tall and 25' wide. White flower clusters in spring that is showy but not fragrant. Bark is smooth and glossy.

Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus Florida*

Very slow growth to 25' tall and 25' wide with bright green leaves. Colorful bracts rather than flowers cover tree in May. Leaves turn glowing red in fall.

Kousa Dogwood, *Cornus Kousa*

Very slow growth to 30' tall and 25' wide with medium green leaves that turn yellow and scarlet in fall. Creamy white narrow bracts in June or July followed by red fruit resembling strawberries in fall.

Chinese Dogwood *Cornus Kousa Chinensis*

Similar to Kousa Dogwood but with larger leaves, bracts, and fruit.

Flowering Crabapple, *Malus spp.*

Most are moderate growth from 15'- 30' tall and 15' – 25' wide depending on type. All display handsome pink, white, or red flowers in April or May. Most also have fruit which is showy and edible.

Japanese Flowering Cherry, *Prunus Serrulata*

Fast to moderate growth to 30' tall and 20' wide. Flowers are white or pink with most showing up in midseason.

Flowering Pear, *Pyrus Calleryana* Cultivars

Most are moderate growth from 25'- 50' tall and 15' – 25' wide depending on type. Leaves are dark green, very glossy and leathery. All display pure white flowers in April. Most also have fruit which is small and inedible.

Bristlecone Pine, *Pinus Aristata*

Very slow growth to 45' with dark green needles that persist for years making crown extremely dense.

English Oak, *Quercus Robur* “Skyrocket”

Fairly fast growth to 45' tall and 15' wide with dark green leaves that turn yellow brown in fall.

European Mountain Ash, *Sorbus Aucuparia* “Black Hawk”

Moderate to fast growth to 30' tall and 20' wide with dull dark green leaves that turn yellow, orange, or red in fall. Orange red ¼” fruit hang until spring.

European Mountain Ash Cardinal Royal, *Sorbus Aucuparia* “Michred”

Moderate to fast growth to 30' tall and 20' wide with dark green leaves that turn rust colored in fall. Fruit is large bright red and hang in clusters through the winter.

Greenspire Little leaf Linden, *Tilia Cordata* “Greenspire”

Slow to moderate growth to 40' tall and 30' wide with dark green leaves that turn yellow in fall. Fragrant yellow flowers in June.

For a complete description of trees and planting guidelines contact the Arbor Day Foundation or visit their web site at www.arborday.com

TREES TO AVOID

The following trees are not recommended for planting near utility lines or in small lots. Reasons vary but include consistent limb loss in storms, excessive level of growth, a history of breaking pavement, spreading by suckers, excess or messy seed or fruit drop. A few are suitable for rural settings when the tree is far removed from utility lines, buildings, etc.

Box Elder, *Acer Negundo*

Silver Maple, *Acer Saccharinum*

Tree of heaven, *Ailanthus Altissima*

Catalpa, *Catalpa Speciosa*

Russian Olive, *Elaeagnus Angustifolia*

American Sycamore, *Platanus Occidentalis*

Cottonwoods & Poplars, *Populus Species*

Black Locust, *Robinia Pseudoacacia*

Weeping Willow, *Salix Species*

Elms, *Ulmus Species*