

## 2025 Plant Descriptions

**Canaan Fir** – *Abies intermedii* - Local Christmas Tree growers largely agree that this is the best fir for most county sites. It is more tolerant than most firs of both wetter soil and drought conditions. The short, soft, fragrant needles maintain a bright green color year round. A true fir that grows 30-50 feet.

**Canadian Hemlock** – *Tsuga Canadensis* - Canadian (Eastern) Hemlock achieves its best growth in evenly moist, acidic, organic, rich, well-drained soils in partial shade to partial sun. Canadian Hemlock does not tolerate wet soils, nor prolonged drought. Strongly windswept areas and air polluted sites should be avoided. Canadian hemlock can reach a height of 70 feet with a 35 foot spread.

**Eastern Red Cedar** – *Juniperus virginiana* - This dense pyramidal native evergreen grows up to 40' and has a spread of 8-20'. The medium green needles are flat and scale-like. Exfoliating handsome grayish to reddish brown bark is considered part of its ornamental interest. It should grow in almost any type of soil. Due to its fast, dense growth, this tree is a good choice for an evergreen screen or hedge, space 4' apart.

**Eastern White Pine** – *Pinus strobes* - This is one of the fastest growing evergreens. Adaptable to many conditions, it has long, soft needles and grows 75-100 feet. Good tree for specimens, naturalizing, windbreak or dense screen. White pines are not picky about lighting conditions - growing in full sun to full shade conditions. White pines are well suited to poor soils and drier sites, but grow best on sandy or loamy, well drained, acidic soils.

**Norway Spruce** – *Picea abies* - This fast growing spruce reach 80 feet in height and is valuable as a windbreak and wildlife shelter. Norway Spruce prefers moist but well-drained, acidic soils that may be organic, sandy, or loamy. However, it is perhaps the most adaptable common evergreen tree to harsh conditions, including poor, clay, rocky, dry soils of acidic, neutral, or alkaline pH. Its should not be planted in wet soils, where it will quickly die. It grows in full to partial sun.

**White Cedar** - *Thuja occidentalis* - Also known as American Arborvitae, it can grow to 40 feet tall with a 10-15 foot spread. This tree has a pyramidal shape & makes an elegant hedge or wind break. Arborvitae prefers full sun, and needs a well-drained site, but will adapt to a variety of soil types. Arborvitae provide cover for wildlife.

**White Spruce** – *Picea glauca* - Growing up to 50', the stiff needles are light bluish-green, usually less than 1 inch in length. This spruce thrives in well drained or moist soil. It is unique because it can endure heat and drought better than others. Extremely hardy and will live where many other varieties could not survive.

**Bald Cypress** – *Taxodium distichum* - Grows 50-70 feet with a spread of 10-20 feet, this deciduous conifer has a stately pyramidal growth habit. Its bright green needles in spring turn to rich orange and pumpkin brown in autumn. It grows well in a wide range of soil conditions, but is a favorite for use in wet, swampy areas.

**Black Gum** – *Nyssa sylvatica* - A native tree of great ornamental and wildlife value that grows to 40 feet tall with a 30 foot spread. This handsome pyramidal tree has lustrous dark green leaves that turn a brilliant red in fall. Female trees produce a small blue fruit that birds relish. Grows on dry upland sites as well as wet sites, in full sun or part-shade.

**Black Walnut** – *Juglans nigra* - Growing to over 70 feet, it is one of the most highly valued of North American hardwoods for timber. The Black Walnut has compound leaves and produces large, rich, flavorful nuts. Walnut prefers moist, rich soils, but will tolerate a wide range of soils. For best nut production, space 30 feet apart to develop a full, well-branched top. It should start producing nuts in 8-10 years. For timber use, space 8-10 feet apart.

**Bitternut Hickory** - *Carya cordiformis* – Reaching a height of 70 ft, bitternut is prized for excellent timber quality. Although tolerant of a variety of soil conditions, it does seem to do best on drier sites. Salt tolerant. Full sun required in maturity.

**Bur Oak** – *Quercus macrocarpa* - Growing to a height of 75', this massive and majestic tree is found across Ohio. It is found in both continuously moist as well as very dry sites. It is one of the most picturesque of the Oaks of the Midwest, especially in winter. Its fiddle-shaped leathery leaves, huge fringed acorns, thick and sometimes corky twigs, and deeply ridged bark add to its bold texture. Acorns are quite large (sometimes 1 inch or more) and are a major food source for deer and other wildlife. Wood is heavy, hard, strong and durable.

**Hackberry** – *Celtis occidentalis* – Hackberry is a phenomenal tree choice due to its adaptability to a variety of soil types, temperatures, and it is tolerant of urban pollution and salt. This quick growing shade tree can reach heights of 70 ft x 70 ft wide. As indicated by the name, this tree produces small fruits that are attractive to birds and other wildlife.

**Sugar Maple** – *Acer saccharum* - The sugar maple sap is the source of the popular maple syrup produced in Ohio. Sugar Maple thrives when it is planted or transplanted into rich, moderately deep soils having even moisture coupled with good drainage. Growing up to 70' tall, its leaves have brilliant tones of yellow, orange and red in the fall.

**Swamp White Oak** – *Quercus bicolor* - Our Ohio native oak that has the greatest potential for early acorn production is the Swamp White Oak. And the good news is that the name is quite misleading. Swamp White Oak grows well on upland sites. They prefer an acid soil and full sun, and for a tree with "swamp" in their common name, they are surprisingly drought tolerant. This hardy native oak grows 50-60 feet in height. They will thrive when planted along streams & rivers; they are an excellent choice for wetland plantings. Its fall color is yellow-bronze. A great choice for attracting wildlife.

**Sweet Birch** – *Betula lenta* – Sometimes referred to as 'Cherry Birch' the bark of sweet birch is dark and peels off in squarish pieces, resembling the bark of black cherry trees.

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**Thornless Honeylocust** - *Gleditsia cordiformis* is a member of the legume family and growing up to 40 ft tall and wide with an upright oval or rounded habit. This tree tolerates a variety of soil conditions including compaction, poor soils, drought, and flooding. It is also tolerant of heat, urban conditions, salt, and is resistant to damage by deer.

**Tuliptree (Tulip Poplar)** - *Liriodendron tulipifera* - The Tulip Poplar is a fast-growing, tall North American hardwood tree that can reach a height of over 150 feet! Hummingbirds and honey bees enjoy its nectar, while Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers enjoy its sap. Tulip Poplars produce seeds, which are favorites of Northern Cardinals. They have attractive spring flowers and great fall color!

**White Oak** - *Quercus alba* - This native beauty can reach a mature height of 80 feet. It is a broad, dense-headed tree with purple-red fall color. It is an excellent tree for wildlife, as it produces a good crop of acorns. It is also one of the most important hardwood timber trees in Ohio.

**Black Elderberry** - *Sambucus canadensis* - This is a vigorous, fast-growing native shrub: growing 6-8 feet high & wide. Its bluish-black berries can be used for making jelly, preserves, pies and wine. The berries are also a great food source for wildlife. The arching form of elderberry & fragrant, white flowers provide additional landscape value. Perfect shrub for wet sites, but elderberry is adaptable to many soil types. Fruiting is better in full sun site.

**Redosier Dogwood** - *Cornus sericea* - An open form, multi-stemmed shrub reaching heights of 7-10 ft. Bright red stems offer winter interest in any landscape. A great plant for field windbreaks, riparian plantings & urban settings. Fruit and twigs are used by wildlife. Very tolerant of pruning to maintain size and promote new growth, which offers the best red color. Very adaptable to a variety of soil and light conditions.

**Steeplebush** - *Spirea tomentosa* - famous for showy pink flowers, Steeplebush also features excellent foliage that turns bright reddish-gold in the fall. This native forms a colony of upright, slender wand-like plants and requires a moist setting

**Sweet Shrub** - *Calycanthus floridus* - Sweetshrub is an eastern U.S. native shrub with glossy, aromatic dark green foliage that reaches 6 to 9 feet in height. The flowers are a striking 2-inch fragrant, deep red to maroon color that last a month or more. Sweetshrub is very resistant to disease and pest problem and is highly adaptable to many soil types and grows in sun or shade.

**American Plum** - *Prunus americana* - Also known as wild plum, this native tree has white, pungently sweet blossoms in early spring before the foliage breaks bud. Its fruits are sweet when fully ripe, and make excellent jelly or jam due to their high pectin and acid content. It reaches 20-25 feet as an individual specimen and is highly adaptable to different soil conditions. Plant in full sun for optimal fruiting.

**Downy Serviceberry** - *Amelanchier arborea* This small native ornamental tree is an all-season beauty that will reach a height of 15-25 feet. White, fragrant flowers appear in early spring before the leaves emerge. The flowers give way to green berries that will turn red to dark purple in early summer. The edible berries are used in jams, jellies and pies. This serviceberry will grow in a wide range of soil types, with average to well drained soils, in full to partial sun.

**Eastern Redbud** - *Cercis canadensis* - A beautiful native tree that reaches 20-30 feet and has dark green heart shaped leaves. Appropriately named, the redbud has flowers that are reddish purple in bud and open to a rosy pink with purplish tinge in early spring. Redbud prefers deep, moist, organic, well-drained soils, but adapts to many less-than-favorable soils. It grows most rapidly and flowers most prolifically in full sun if adequate moisture is available during the heat of summer. A great hardy landscape addition!

**Pagoda Dogwood** - *Cornus alternifolia* - Striking in every season, Pagoda Dogwood is an extremely adaptable North American native tree. With distinct, horizontally tiered branching pattern, beautiful white spring flowers, blue summer fruit, and red fall colors, this tree provides beauty in every season making it a great choice for any yard. This dogwood grows to approximately 20ft x 20 ft. in full shade to full sun exposures.

**Pawpaw** - *Asimina triloba* - Back by popular demand! This unique native shrub is easily recognized by its large, tropical-looking foliage, and prized for its delicious banana-like fruits that mature in late summer. It can reach 8-20 feet tall and up to 15 feet wide. Its long leaves turn gold to brown in the fall. Two plants are recommended for pollination. They grow best in slightly acid (pH 5.5-7.0), deep, fertile, and well-drained soils. Good drainage is essential to success. They will grow in heavy soils but will not survive water-logged conditions.

**Sweetbay Magnolia** - *Magnolia virginiana* - Sweetbay Magnolia typically blooms a little later in the spring, which allows us northern dwellers a greater chance of actually seeing a magnolia bloom in our landscape. Sweetbay has a white, fragrant bloom that is smaller than most magnolia blooms. But this magnolia can take the cold, the heat, and the wet, heavy and poor quality soils many of us have to offer! The open growth habit of Sweetbay magnolia also lends interesting form to your landscape. In northern Ohio landscapes, this tree typically grows to about 25 feet. You'll love the large, clustered, orange fruits and so will the birds - this featured tree has four season interest!

**Hybrid Chestnuts** - Included with the purchase of each 'Hybrid Chestnut' packet is three hybrid chestnut seedlings and a one-year membership to Ohio Nut Growers. These seedlings are the result of three decades of plant breeding and combine pest and pathogen resistance from several chestnut species. Nut production has begun in field plantings in as little as three to five years in good site conditions.