



Department of CITY PLANNING

Office of Buildings – Arborist Division
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TREE PLANTING LIST

TREE PLANTING REQUIREMENTS (for receiving recompense credit):

- Overstory or mid-canopy species only unless site conditions do not provide sufficient space.
- Minimum size of 2.5" caliper (measured at 6" above ground).
- Recompense credit for species not on the list below requires City Arborist approval.

Recommended trees: We recommend selecting trees native to the Piedmont region, which includes Atlanta, before selecting non-native species wherever possible. **Native trees** (in bold) are adapted to local growing conditions, provide ecosystem functions, and often perform best over the long run. Some non-native species are included in this list because they can survive in harsh urban environments. Species that exhibit undesirable characteristics such as invasive tendencies are not on the list and will not be approved for recompense credit. The best approach for selecting a tree is to evaluate sunlight, soil volume and quality, water sources, and other physical conditions of the site.

Tree availability: Prior to specifying species on a tree replacement plan, please source from a local nursery. Some species listed are not readily available but requesting these trees at nurseries will raise awareness of interest and create a demand.

OVERSTORY TREES common name/Latin name	
<p>Overstory trees typically reach a diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) greater than 25 inches and a height greater than 60 feet at maturity. (>= 1,600 sq. ft. of canopy at maturity) Required spacing: minimum 35 feet on center between both existing and replacement trees in this category.</p>	
<p>Basswood, White <i>Tilia heterophylla</i> Beech, American <i>Fagus grandifolia</i> Elm, American <i>Ulmus americana</i> Elm, Slippery <i>Ulmus rubra</i> Ginkgo (male only) <i>Ginkgo biloba</i> Hackberry, Common <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> Hackberry, Georgia <i>Celtis tenuifolia</i> Hickory, Bitternut <i>Carya cordiformis</i> Hickory, Mockernut <i>Carya tomentosa</i> Hickory, Pignut <i>Carya glabra</i> Hickory, Sand <i>Carya pallida</i> Hickory, Shagbark <i>Carya ovata</i> Hickory, Southern Shagbark <i>Carya ovata var.australis</i> Oak, Black <i>Quercus velutina</i> Oak, Cherrybark <i>Quercus pagoda</i> Oak, Chestnut <i>Quercus prinus</i> Oak, Northern Red <i>Quercus rubra</i></p>	<p>Oak, Nuttall <i>Quercus nuttalli</i> Oak, Oglethorpe <i>Quercus oglethorpensis</i> Oak, Overcup <i>Quercus lyrata</i> Oak, Post <i>Quercus stellata</i> Oak, Scarlet <i>Quercus coccinea</i> Oak, Shumard <i>Quercus shumardii</i> Oak, Southern Red <i>Quercus falcata</i> Oak, Swamp Chestnut <i>Quercus michauxii</i> Oak, Swamp White <i>Quercus bicolor</i> Oak, White <i>Quercus alba</i> Oak, Willow <i>Quercus phellos</i> Pecan <i>Carya illinoensis</i> Sugarberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i> Sweetgum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> Sycamore <i>Platanus occidentalis</i> Tulip Poplar <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i></p>
MID-STORY/MID-CANOPY TREES common name/Latin name	
<p>Mid-canopy trees typically reach a diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) of 10-25 inches and a height of 30-60 feet at maturity. (approx. 900 sq. ft. of canopy at maturity) Required spacing: minimum 25 feet on center between both existing and replacement trees in this category.</p>	
<p>Blackgum (Tupelo) <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Cypress, Bald <i>Taxodium distichum</i> Cypress, Pond <i>Taxodium ascendens</i> Dawn Redwood <i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i> Elm, Winged <i>Ulmus alata</i> Hickory, Water <i>Carya aquatica</i> Hophornbeam, American <i>Ostrya virginiana</i> Hornbeam (Ironwood) <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> Katsura <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i> Maple, Red <i>Acer rubrum</i>† Maple, Southern Sugar <i>Acer barbatum</i> Maple, Trident <i>Acer buergeranum</i> Mulberry, Red <i>Morus rubra</i></p>	<p>Oak, Chinkapin <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> Oak, English <i>Quercus robur</i> Oak, Georgia <i>Quercus georgiana</i> Osage Orange <i>Maclura pomifera</i> 'Whiteshield' Persimmon, Common <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> Pine, Virginia <i>Pinus virginiana</i> Redcedar, Eastern <i>Juniperus virginiana</i> River Birch <i>Betula nigra</i> Sourwood <i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i> Water Tupelo <i>Nyssa aquatica</i> Willow, Black <i>Salix nigra</i> Yellowwood, American <i>Cladrastis kentukea</i></p>

†Red maples are currently over-planted; to increase diversity, the City requests using only when another species is not appropriate.



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UNDERSTORY AND ORNAMENTAL TREES common name/Latin name	
<p><i>Understory trees typically reach DBH of <=15 inches and a height of 30 feet or less at maturity. (approx. 400 sq. ft. of canopy at maturity).</i> <i>Required spacing: min. 15 feet on center between both existing and replacement trees. Recompense credit for understory only where conditions do not allow planting of over or mid-canopy trees.</i></p>	
<p>Buckeye, Red <i>Aesculus pavia</i> Crapemyrtle <i>Lagerstroemia sp.††</i> Dogwood, Kousa <i>Cornus kousa</i> Dogwood, Flowering <i>Cornus florida</i> Dogwood, Pagoda <i>Cornus alternifolia</i> Dogwood, Swamp <i>Cornus foemina</i> Fringe tree, Grancy greybeard <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> Hawthorn, Green <i>Crataegus viridis</i> Hawthorn, Washington <i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i> Magnolia, Bigleaf <i>Magnolia macrophylla</i> Magnolia, Saucer <i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i></p>	<p>Maple, Chalk <i>Acer leucoderme</i> Maple, Japanese <i>Acer palmatum cvs</i> Paw Paw <i>Asimina trilobal</i> Parrotia, Persian <i>Parrotia persica</i> Redbud, Eastern <i>Cercis Canadensis</i> Sassafras <i>Sassafras albidum</i> Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> Silverbell <i>Halesia Carolina</i></p>

PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPECIFIC LOCATIONS:

Many trees below also are listed above; some are added because of their tolerance for challenging locations.

EVERGREEN SCREENING TREES	
<p><i>Per ordinance, spacing requirement is 15 feet on center, between both existing and replacement trees. Screening trees are eligible for recompense credit (based on 15 ft. spacing) ONLY where site conditions do not allow planting of overstory or mid-canopy trees.</i></p>	
<p>Deodar Cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i> Holly, American <i>Ilex opaca</i> Holly, Fosters <i>Ilex x attenuata 'Fosteri'</i> Holly, Savannah <i>Ilex x attenuata 'Savannah'</i></p>	<p>Holly, Yaupon <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> Magnolia, Sweetbay <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> Pine, Virginia <i>Pinus virginiana</i> Redcedar, Eastern <i>Juniperus virginiana</i></p>
COLUMNAR TREES FOR NARROW SPACES	
<p>Various canopy sizes with columnar growth patterns</p>	
<p>Cypress, Bald <i>Taxodium distichum</i> Hornbeam, European <i>Carpinus betulus 'Fastigata'</i> Oak, English <i>Quercus robur</i></p>	<p>Osage Orange <i>Maclura pomifera 'Whiteshield'</i> Redcedar, Eastern <i>Juniperus virginiana</i></p>
TREES SUITABLE FOR DETENTION PONDS AND WETLANDS (See categories above for size of species at maturity.)	
<p>Blackgum (Tupelo) <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Water Tupelo <i>Nyssa aquatica</i> Bald cypress <i>Taxodium distichum</i> Dawn Redwood <i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i> Dogwood, Swamp <i>Cornus foemina</i></p>	<p>Hickory, Water <i>Carya aquatic</i> Hornbeam, (Ironwood) <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> Magnolia, Sweetbay <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> Maple, Red <i>Acer rubrum†</i></p>
TREES SUITABLE FOR ROAD FRONTAGE AND PARKING LOTS	
<p>Overstory</p>	
<p>Basswood, White <i>Tilia heterophylla</i> Oak, Nuttall <i>Quercus nuttalli</i> Oak, Overcup <i>Quercus lyrata</i></p>	<p>Oak, Shumard <i>Quercus shumardii</i> Oak, Willow <i>Quercus phellos</i> Sugarberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i></p>
<p>Mid-story</p>	
<p>Blackgum (Tupelo) <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Cypress, Bald <i>Taxodium distichum</i> Hophornbeam, American <i>Ostrya virginiana</i> Hornbeam (Ironwood) <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i></p>	<p>Oak, Georgia <i>Quercus georgiana</i> Maple, Red <i>Acer rubrum†</i> Maple, Southern Sugar <i>Acer barbatum</i> Maple, Trident <i>Acer buergeranum</i></p>
<p>Understory (<i>Understory trees do not meet parking lot planting requirements but are suitable for road frontage when overhead power lines are present.</i>)</p>	
<p>Crapemyrtle <i>Lagerstroemia sp.††</i> Fringe Tree <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i></p>	<p>Parrotia, Persian <i>Parrotia persica</i> Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier arborea</i></p>
TREES SUITABLE TO BE PLANTED BELOW OVERHEAD POWER LINES	
<p>Crapemyrtle <i>Lagerstroemia sp.††</i> Fringe tree <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> Magnolia, Saucer <i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i></p>	<p>Maple, Trident <i>Acer buergeranum</i> Redbud, Eastern <i>Cercis Canadensis</i> Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier arborea</i></p>

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††Crapemyrtles accepted only with the following characteristics:

- Tree must have only one 2.5"-caliper trunk (standard trunk)
- Species must be one the following cultivars: Biloxi, Choctaw, Fantasy, Muskogee, Natchez and Wichita. Other cultivars require approval by Arborist Plan Reviewer.