Arlington Tree Canopy Equity Program Species - Fall 2025

Overview:

- All of these species do well in our area, generally accepting of our clay soils. The few that do not do well in clay are mentioned.
- Trees are generally 2-inch caliper, 7-feet high at planting.
- The tree growth rate is given for height: Slow= 12"/year Medium=18"/year Fast = 24"/year
- Shrubs are generally 2-feet high at planting.
- Shrubs will form thickets. Prune as needed to maintain size.

Section I - Large Shade Trees

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
American Linden	*Tilia americana*	60-80	30-50	Full sun to part shade	Dark green leaves, pale yellow fragrant flowers in June that are magnets for bees and are followed by small nutlets. Tolerates some drought. Moderate growth rate.
American Sycamore	*Platanus occidentalis*	70-100	70-90	Full sun	Interesting, multicolored bark; moderate wildlife value. An adaptable, tough tree. Medium-fast growth rate.
River Birch	*Betula Nigra*	40-70	40-60	Full to part sun	Lovely shedding white and brown bark, multi-stemmed, high wildlife value, fast growth rate. Do not let soil get too dry if planted in a hot, sunny location. Medium-fast growth rate.
Sugarberry	*Celtis occidentalis*	40-60	40-50	Full to part sun	Smooth bark in youth, then develops interesting 'corky' ridges. High wildlife value--berries relished by birds. Tolerates wet, dry, and poor soils. Medium-fast growth rate.
Swamp White Oak	*Quercus bicolor*	60-80	50-75	Full to part sun	Leaves dark, shiny green above and silvery white beneath; good fall color. High wildlife value. Tolerates flooding, drought, and a range of soils. Slow-medium growth rate.

Section II - Medium Shade Trees

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
American holly	*Ilex opaca*	40-50	18-40	Sun to partial shade	Moist well drained soil; avoid extremely dry, windy, and wet sites. Pyramidal growth habit. Slow growing.
American Hornbeam	*Carpinus caroliniana*	20-30	20-30	Partial shade to shade	Sinewy-smooth bark, delicate leaves. High wildlife value. Brilliant yellow fall color. Slow growth rate.
Pin oak	*Quercus palustrus*	60-70	30-40	Full sun	Russet or red leaf color in fall. High wildlife value. Tolerates wet sites; poor, compacted soil; and occasional periods of dry soil. Fast growth rate.

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Section III - Small Flowering Trees

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
Fringetree	*Chionanthus virginicus*	15-30	15-20	Full sun to partial shade	Tree with fragrant, fringe-like white flowers, attractive foliage, and blue fruit. Prefers well-drained soils. Medium growth rate.
Sweetbay magnolia	*Magnolia virginiana*	20-35	20-35	Partial shade. Do not plant in full shade.	Semi-evergreen with fragrant white flowers, tolerates some flooding and salt. Medium to fast growth rate.

Section IV - Fruit Trees

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
American Persimmon	*Diospyros virginiana 'Prok'*	30-40	20-30	Full sun	Tree with glossy green leaves and orange fruit, excellent for wildlife, prefers well-drained, sandy soils. Tolerant of acidic to neutral soil. Slow to medium growth rate. Only the female persimmon tree will produce fruit.
Black Cherry	*Prunus serotina*	30-60	30-40	Full sun to partial shade	Tree with fragrant white flowers and black cherries, attractive bark, thrives in well-drained soils. Acidic to neutral soil tolerance. Medium growth rate.
Pawpaw	*Asimina triloba*	15-25	15-25	Full sun to partial shade	Tree with large, tropical-looking leaves and custard-like fruit, prefers rich, well-drained soils. Tolerant of acidic to neutral soil. Slow to medium growth rate. Two pawpaw trees are needed to crosspollinate and produce fruit.

Section V - Shrubs

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
American Beauty-berry	Callicarpa americana	6-8	6-8	Full sun to partial shade	Shrub with clusters of vibrant purple berries in fall, attractive foliage, prefers well-drained soils. Neutral to slightly acidic soil tolerance. Medium growth rate. *Fruits are edible for people: the berries, while a bit bitter, may be eaten and can be made into jam.*
Arrowwood	*Viburnum dentatum*	6-12	Variable	Full sun to shade	Tolerates dry to moist soils, white flowers spring, black berries, Reddish fall color, multi-stemmed. Prefers 2 for better fruiting. Deer can be issue. *Fruit notes: not for human consumption*
Buttonbush	*Cephalanthus occidentalis*	6-12	Variable	Full sun to shade	Slender deciduous shrub with spherical white blooms, drought-tolerant, thrives in loamy or wet soils. Acidic to neutral soil tolerance. Slow to medium growth rate.

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Arlington Tree Canopy Equity Program Species - Fall 2025

Common elderberry	*Sambucus Canadensis*	2-8	Variable	Full sun to shade	Tolerates dry to wet soils, white flowers in summer, prefers two for better fruiting. *Fruits are edible for people: purple berries in fall must be cooked before eating and are great in pie, preserves or wine. Berries may cause vomiting if eaten raw.*
Oakleaf hydrangea	*Hydrangea quercifolia*	3-6	Variable	Full sun to partial shade	Shrub with large, oak-like leaves that turn purple in fall, white blooms in late spring, prefers moist, rich soil. Acidic to neutral soil tolerance. Medium growth rate.
Red osier dogwood	*Cornus servicea*	6-9	Variable	Partial shade	Shrub with striking red stems in winter, white blooms in early spring, prefers moist, well-drained soils. Acidic to neutral soil tolerance. Medium growth rate.
Winterberry	*Ilex verticillata*	6-12	Variable	Full sun to shade	Deciduous shrub with bright red berries remaining after leaves fall, greenish-white flowers in spring, thrives in moist, acidic soils. Acidic soil preference. Medium growth rate. *Fruit notes: not for human consumption:*