

Description of Trees and Shrubs For 2026

Evergreens

Colorado Blue Spruce: Considered one of the favorite landscape and windbreak trees. Color may vary from green to hues of blue. Very stiff and formal in outline. Slow growing species becomes 30-50' tall after 30-50 years with a 10-20' spread.

White Pine: The king of the eastern forest. Specimens over 150' in height can be found, although most range from 50-80' with a 20-40' spread. Historically used for shipmasts. Fast growing. Use in windbreaks and in mixed plantations. Deer browse can be a serious problem on young trees.

White Spruce: Grows 50-60' tall; 1-3' per year. Use in windbreaks and mixed planting. Attractive ornamental and a popular Christmas tree.

Scotch Pine: Medium-sized tree growing 30-50' in height with a spread of 30-40'; can grow 80-90' high. Used for Christmas trees more than any other species; also as a component in hardwood plantings. Has not been grown for lumber in this country. Will grow on very poor ground. Fast grower.

Balsam Fir: Can tolerate some wetness. Popular as a Christmas Tree. Excellent fragrance with good needle retention. Prefers well drained, acidic, moist soil.

Canaan Fir: Many similarities to both Fraser and Balsam Fir. May be more tolerant of wetter soil and a variety of soil types. Popular as a Christmas Tree.

Norway Spruce: This European spruce has been popular for windbreaks since pioneer days. Fastest growing species becomes 40-60' in height with 25-30' spread. Does well on a variety of sites. Mix in hardwood plantings.

White Cedar: Also known as American Arborvitae. Individual trees will grow together and maintain a living barrier to the ground. For a one-row windbreak, 20-30' in height. White Cedar is an excellent choice.

Hardwood Trees

Red Oak: Medium to large-sized tree growing 70-90' tall and 2-4' in diameter. Grows best on moist sites with black oak and walnut. One of the fastest growing oaks. Red oak is of high value for lumber, cabinetry, hardwood flooring and veneer. Acorns are bitter in taste.

Black Walnut: Medium to large-sized tree growing 60-80' tall and 2-3' in diameter. Most site sensitive of the hardwood species. Prefers deep, fertile, well-drained soils, but does well on upland sites with adequate moisture. Fast growing. Most valuable of the timber species.

White Oak: Large tree reaching 80-100' tall and 2-3' in diameter. Grows well on dry uplands and hillsides. Slow growing. Wood is historically the most valued of all the oaks. Used for furniture, barrel staves, fence posts, farm & home construction and many other uses. Very strong wood. Acorns valuable for wildlife food.

Sugar Maple: Slow to medium growth. Height 50-100 feet. Outstanding native shade tree. Fall colors include yellow, orange to fiery red depending on conditions. Grows in most soil types. Sap used for maple syrup, also used for lumber & wildlife habitat.

Swamp White Oak: Medium sized tree reaching 50 – 70 feet tall and 2 – 3 feet in diameter. Tolerates high moisture, though not long periods of standing water. One of the fastest growing species in the white oak family.

Bur Oak: Grows 50-80' tall. Adaptable, tough; can plant just about everywhere except in a swamp. In oak-savanna ecotypes, this is the most predominant oak. In the white oak family; demand has increased recently.

Domestic Apple: Grows to 12-20' tall and has a spread of 12-20' spread. Grows 12-14" per year. A domestic apple tree is not a grafted cultivar, but it still produces apples that deer, turkeys, and small mammals find irresistible.

Wildlife Shrubs

Red Osier Dogwood: Grows 7-9' high with dark red branches. Flowers are white, fruit is white. Hardy everywhere. Grows well in wet or moist soil and can be found bordering wetlands. Good for food and cover for wildlife.

Gray Dogwood: Is a very adaptable, native shrub. They produce creamy white clusters of flowers in May then followed by white berries in late summer that are quickly eaten by birds. Grows 10-15' height and 10-15' spread.

Hazelnut: Also known as American Filbert. Medium-sized shrub growing 8-10' tall and spreading 6-8'. Adaptable to a wide variety of sites, but does best in well drained loamy soil. Great wildlife species. Edible nut.

Highbush Cranberry: Highbush cranberry is a shrub that grows in cool woods and thickets or on gravelly or rocky banks. It has leaves that resemble maple leaves and turn red in the fall. It produces red or orange drupes that look and taste like cranberries and ripen in the fall.

Ninebark: Native shrub grows 6-10' tall & wide. The white cup-shaped flower heads are attractive to birds, bees, and butterflies. Drought tolerant – requiring little maintenance.

Serviceberry (Juneberry): Amelanchier Alnifolia. Grows 5-10' wide and up to 25' tall. Growth rate is medium. It produces round fruit, ripens to dark purple in June. Ripe fruit can be eaten fresh or used in jams, jellies and pies.

Tree Gel: Is a 2-ounce granular substance when mixed with 4-5 gallons of water it forms a consistency of gravy. Dipping the tree roots in the gel helps prevent bare root tree loss due to dry roots and the stress of transplanting. Also improves survival and growth of tree seedlings after planting. The gel breaks down into fertilizer instead of soil-damaging salts.