

Street Trees

Genus	Species	Common Name	Type	Mature size (WxH)	Minimum Spacing (Ft.) Along streets	Growth Rate	Light	Street Tree	Pollution Resistant	Limit Use	Powerline Compatible	Native to region	Visual Attraction	Wildlife value	Shade Tree	Suggested Cultivars	Notes for use/Disease susceptibility
<i>Acer</i>	<i>rubrum</i>	Red maple	Deciduous canopy tree	40x35	20	Fast	Full to partial sun	✓		X		✓	Striking fall color	Moderate	✓	Brandywine, October Glory, Red Sunset, Bowhall	Can have issues with girdling roots. Prefers a wet environment. Limit use due to overplanting
<i>Betula</i>	<i>nigra</i>	River Birch	Deciduous medium tree	40x40	15	Fast	Full sun to shade	✓	✓			✓	Attractive bark	High	✓		Single-trunked for street trees, multi-trunk in large plantings
<i>Carpinus</i>	<i>betulus</i>	European hornbeam	Deciduous medium tree	40x20	15	Slow	Partial sun to shade	✓		X			Attractive bark	None	✓	Fastigiata	Limit use outside of formal landscapes, due to low heat tolerance
<i>Carya</i>	<i>cordiformes</i>	Bitternut hickory	Deciduous canopy tree	30x50	15	Slow	Full sun	✓				✓	Large fruit	High	✓		Must be transplanted at very young age and size
<i>Carya</i>	<i>ovata</i>	Shagbark hickory	Deciduous canopy tree	25x60	15	Slow	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Large fruit	High	✓		Must be transplanted at very young age and size
<i>Celtis</i>	<i>laevigata</i>	Sugar hackberry	Deciduous canopy tree	40x50	25	Fast	Full to partial sun	✓	✓			✓	Attractive bark	High	✓		
<i>Celtis</i>	<i>occidentalis</i>	Common hackberry	Deciduous canopy tree	40x50	25	Fast	Full to partial sun	✓	✓			✓	Attractive bark	High	✓		
<i>Cercidiphyllum</i>	<i>japonicum</i>	Katsuratree	Deciduous medium tree	40x35	25	Medium	Full sun to shade	✓					Year-round color	None	✓		
<i>Ginkgo</i>	<i>biloba</i>	Ginkgo	Deciduous canopy tree	50x50	20	Slow	Full sun	✓	✓				Striking fall color	None	✓	Autumn Gold, Princeton Sentry	Male only
<i>Gleditsia</i>	<i>triacanthos</i>	Honeylocust	Deciduous canopy tree	30x35	20	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓				White clustered flowers. Large seedpods	Moderate	✓	Inermis	Vulnerable to necrotic canker
<i>Gymnocladus</i>	<i>dioicus</i>	Kentucky coffeetree	Deciduous canopy tree	40x50	20	Medium	Full sun	✓	✓				Attractive bark	None	✓		
<i>Juniperus</i>	<i>virginiana</i>	Eastern redcedar	Evergreen medium tree	15x40	15	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓		✓	✓	Evergreen	High			Susceptible to cedar-apple rust, which does not affect the overall health of the tree. Can be used as a street tree if limbed up properly
<i>Liquidambar</i>	<i>styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	Deciduous canopy tree	60x50	20	Medium	Full to partial sun	✓				✓	Striking fall color	Moderate (Low if fruitless)	✓		Use only fruitless varieties as street tree. Roots may be aggressive
<i>Nyssa</i>	<i>sylvatica</i>	Black tupelo	Deciduous canopy tree	30x25	20	Slow	Full to partial sun	✓	✓			✓	Striking fall color	High	✓		
<i>Ostrya</i>	<i>virginiana</i>	Eastern hophornbeam	Deciduous canopy tree	25x25	20	Slow	Partial sun to shade	✓	✓			✓	Hop-shaped fruit	Moderate	✓		
<i>Oxydendrum</i>	<i>arboreum</i>	Sourwood	Deciduous medium tree	25x30	15	Slow	Full to partial sun	✓			✓	✓	Striking fall color, Panicked white flowers	Moderate			
<i>Platanus</i>	<i>x hispanica</i>	London planetree	Deciduous canopy tree	70x70	25	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓	X			Large leaves, interesting seeds	Low	✓	Columbia, Liberty	Limit use due to overplanting
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>bicolor</i>	Swamp white oak	Deciduous canopy tree	60x50	25	Medium	Full to partial sun	✓	✓			✓	Attractive peeling bark	High	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>coccinea</i>	Scarlet oak	Deciduous canopy tree	60x45	25	Medium	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Striking fall color	High	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>falcata</i>	Southern red oak	Deciduous canopy tree	70x60	25	Medium	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Striking fall color	Low	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>hemisphaerica</i>	Darlington oak	Deciduous canopy tree	70x50	25	Medium	Full sun	✓					Thin, sun-filtering leaves	Moderate	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>imbricaria</i>	Shingle oak	Deciduous canopy tree	50x60	25	Medium	Full sun	✓				✓	Semi-evergreen	High	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>macrocarpa</i>	Bur oak	Deciduous canopy tree	70x70	25	Medium	Full sun	✓	✓				Attractive leaves and fruit	Moderate	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>palustris</i>	Pin oak	Deciduous canopy tree	60x35	25	Medium	Full sun	✓				✓	Even form, small acorns	High	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>phellos</i>	Willow oak	Deciduous canopy tree	60x40	25	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓	X		✓	Thin, sun-filtering leaves	Moderate	✓		Limit use due to overplanting
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>robur</i>	English oak	Deciduous canopy tree	40x40	15	Medium	Full sun	✓	✓				Striking fall color	None	✓		Q. bicolor x robur may be an appropriate variant
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>rubra</i>	Northern Red oak	Deciduous canopy tree	60x50	25	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Striking fall color	High	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>shumardii</i>	Shumard Oak	Deciduous canopy tree	60x40	25	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Striking fall color	High	✓		
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>stellata</i>	Post oak	Deciduous canopy tree	35x35	20	Medium	Full sun	✓				✓	Cross-shaped leaves	High	✓		
<i>Robinia</i>	<i>pseudoacacia</i>	Black locust	Deciduous medium tree	20x40	20	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Large clusters of white flowers	High	✓		Single stem only for street tree. Requires structural pruning.

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<i>Taxodium</i>	<i>ascendens</i>	Pondcyprees	Deciduous canopy tree	60x25	20	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓				Deciduous conifer	Low	✓		
<i>Taxodium</i>	<i>distichum</i>	Baldcypress	Deciduous canopy tree	60x25	20	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Deciduous conifer	Low	✓		
<i>Tilia</i>	<i>americana</i>	American Linden	Deciduous canopy tree	50x35	25	Medium	Full sun	✓				✓	White flowers, striking fall color	High	✓		
<i>Tilia</i>	<i>cordata</i>	Littleleaf Linden	Deciduous medium tree	60x35	25	Full to partial sun	Full to partial sun	✓		X			Green	Low	✓		Avoid "Greenspire", due to girdling tendencies
<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>americana</i>	American elm	Deciduous canopy tree	80x60	25	Fast	Full sun	✓	✓			✓	Attractive bark	High	✓		Plant Dutch elm disease resistant cultivars only

Notes:

A list of Street trees, appropriate for Arlington County streets. Picked for their durability, attraction, and form. While this list provides appropriate suggestions, site plan requirements may override species selection for your project.

This list contains species that do well in Arlington County, and have been screened to exclude fragile, often hazardous species, as well as ecologically threatening invasive species.

These trees are not compatible with overhead powerlines. Plant these trees a significant distance away from powerlines.

Please consult Dominion Virginia Power's guide on planting near power lines:

https://www.dom.com/dominion-virginia-power/customer-service/your-service/pdf/tree_planting_guidelines.pdf

Glossary:

Genus	A group of plants marked by common characteristics, like Quercus (Oaks), Acer (Maples), or Cornus (Dogwoods)
Species	An individual type of plant, capable of interbreeding within its designation, like Quercus stellata (Post oak), or Tilia americana (American linden)
Common Name	The common description of a plant, like American Holly, or Tuliptree. A tree can have several common names, which is why latin names are often preferred.
Mature Height	The height a tree of a species can reach, in an ideal environment, usually within 20 years
Growth Rate	The speed at which a species grows to its mature size. Keep in mind a fast-growing small tree may grow fast for its species, but due to genetic limitations, may not reach the size of a slow-growing large tree
Light	The light requirements for a tree to grow optimally. Trees preferring full sun should be in full sun for at least 6 hours a day, while trees preferring shade can live with less than 3 hours of sunlight a day
Street Tree	Trees well suited for planting along roads, or in tree pits. Street trees should be limbed up to a safe height, and not obstruct view for traffic.
Pollution Resistant	Trees well suited for planting in tough areas with high pollution from both the air, as well as salt spray from the road. These species are often also well-suited for stormwater control facilities.
Limit Use	Restrict the use of these species to less than 10% of your planting list. They have been overplanted, have a disease risk, or have a potential to become invasive
Powerline Compatible	Species that may be acceptable to be planted below powerlines, due to size or stature. These species have not been reviewed by Dominion Virginia Power, and utility companies maintain the right to prune or trim any trees or vegetation away from their lines.
Native to Region	Trees native to the Mid-Atlantic. Refer to the Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping guide by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for more information
Visual Attraction	Interest from the tree that sets it apart from other trees, from an aesthetic perspective.
Wildlife Value	Value in the form of edible fruits, foliage, or bark, for our native insects. Wildlife value should not be confused with attracting large amounts of insects or wildlife, but should be seen as a benefit to our ecosystem.
Shade tree	A tree likely to grow to a size where it will cast significant shade on the surrounding environment, reducing energy costs and urban heat island effect.
Suggested Cultivars	Cultivars of the species that have shown promise in our landscape and provide added aesthetic value

Contact the County Urban Forestry office at urbanforestry@arlingtonva.us for questions

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