Approved Shade Trees*

for UP Shade Tree Reimbursement Program

University Park, Maryland

March 2013

Table of Contents

Page number

Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) 1
Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) 2
Hickory (*Carya*) 3
Kentucky coffee tree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*) ... 4
London plane tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*) 5
Northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) 6
Overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*) 7
Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) 8
Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) 9

Swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*) 10
Sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) 11
Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) 12
White oak (*Quercus alba*) 13
Willow oak (*Quercus phellos*) 14
Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*)15
Acknowledgements and Errata 16

Black Gum

HEIGHT: 30′ to 50′
SPREAD: 20′ to 30′
GROWTH RATE: Slow to medium; 12 to 15′ over a ten year period
FALL COLORS: Fluorescent yellow to orange to scarlet to purple
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Excellent specimen tree, acceptable street tree in residential areas, not for heavily polluted areas; outstanding summer and fall foliage, one of the best and most consistent native trees for fall color.

Also called the Black Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*), tupelo, or black gum, is a medium-sized deciduous tree native to eastern North America from New England and southern Ontario

Table of Contents

Chinese Elm

HEIGHT: 40′ to 50′
SPREAD: 40′ to 50′
GROWTH RATE: Medium to fast; about 1.5′ per year
FALL COLORS: Yellowish and reddish purple; not outstanding
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Excellent, tough, durable tree for about any situation.

The Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) or Lacebark Elm, is a species native to China, Japan, North Korea and Vietnam. It has been described as "one of the most splendid elms, having the poise of a graceful Nothofagus." The leathery, lustrous green single-toothed leaves are small, and often

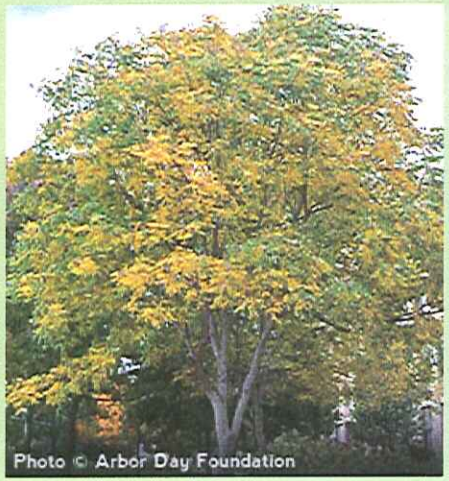
Table of Contents

Hickory

HEIGHT: 60′ or more
SPREAD: 35′ or more
GROWTH RATE:
FALL COLORS: Yellow to gold
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Although extremely beautiful and aesthetic native trees, they develop large taproots and are difficult to transplant. Drops nuts, stems, and leaves throughout the year.

The Hickory (*Carya*) group includes 17-19 species of deciduous trees with pinnately compound leaves and hard-shelled nuts. Five or six species are native to China, Indochina, and India, 11 or 12 are from the United States, two to four are from Canada

Kentucky Coffee Tree



HEIGHT: 60′ to 75′, can grow to 90′

SPREAD: 40′ to 50′

GROWTH RATE: Slow to medium; 12 to 14′ over a ten year period

FALL COLORS: Often ineffective (some yellow) but on some trees is excellent

FLOWERS: On female trees only: greenish white, 4 to 5 petals, fragrant.

LANDSCAPE NOTES: A choice tree for parks, golf course and other large areas; at times somewhat dirty for the pods, leaflets, and leaf stems are falling at different times.

The Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*) is native to the Midwest of North America. The wood

Table of Contents

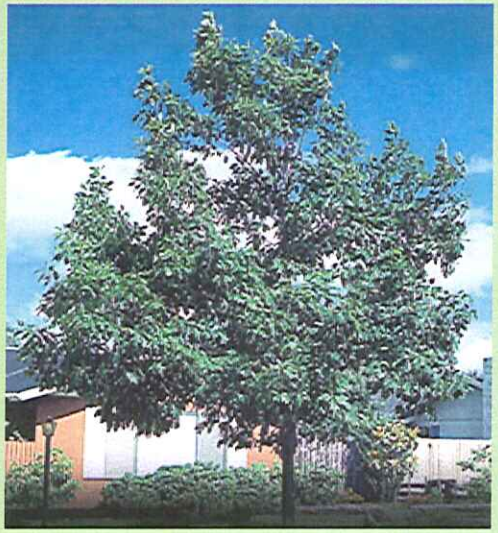
London Plane Tree

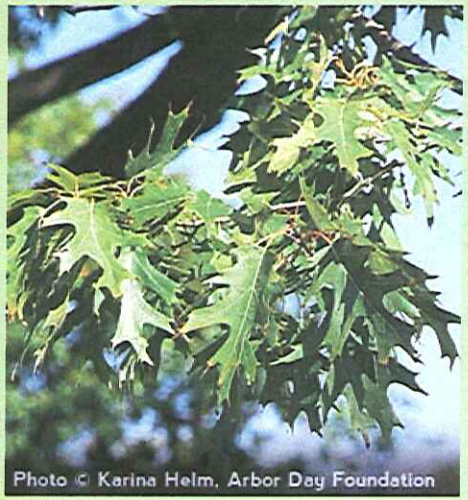
HEIGHT: 70′ to 100′
SPREAD: 65′ to 80′ and can spread to 120′
GROWTH RATE: About 2′ a year
FALL COLORS: Yellow brown
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Acceptable for open areas in parks, golf courses, campuses; use as a street tree should be restricted for it grows too large. Drops 1"diameter fruit.

The London Plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) is a large deciduous tree with bark usually pale grey-green, smooth and exfoliating, or buff-brown and not exfoliating. The leaves are thick and stiff-textured. The young leaves in spring are coated with minute, fine, stiff hairs at first, but these wear off and by late

Table of Contents

Northern Red Oak



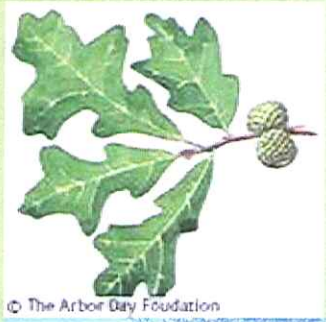


HEIGHT: 60′ to 75′
SPREAD: 60′ to 75′
GROWTH RATE: Fast; 2′ per year over a 10 year period
FALL COLORS: Russet Red to bright red, sometimes never passing much beyond yellow-brown.
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Valuable fast growing oak for lawns, parks, golf courses and commercial areas; common street and urban tree. Acorns ¾″ - 1″ long.

The Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) or champion oak is a native of North America, in the northeastern United States and southeast Canada. It grows from the north end of the Great Lakes, east to Nova Scotia, south as far as Georgia and states with good soil that is slightly acidic

Table of Contents

Overcup Oak



HEIGHT: 40′ to 60′
SPREAD: 40′ to 60′
FALL COLORS: Rich yellow brown to tannin brown
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Will withstand considerable flooding. Worth considering for especially difficult sites.

The Overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*) is native to lowland wetlands in the southeastern United States, from Delaware and southern Illinois south to northern Florida and southeast Texas. The leaves are deeply lobed, often somewhat lyre-shaped, dark green above, paler and often finely hairy beneath. The flowers are catkins, produced in the spring and maturing in about 6-7 months into a

Table of Contents

Southern Magnolia

HEIGHT: 60′ to 80′
SPREAD: 30′ to 50′
GROWTH RATE: Slow to medium; with water and fertilizer a fast grower.
FALL COLORS: No change from lustrous dark green above and lighter green below.
FLOWERS: Creamy white, fragrant
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Widely used and planted; needs a great deal of room to develop; a very handsome tree; sometimes used as a screen, grouping and hedge.

The Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) is a very popular ornamental tree native to the southeastern United States, from Virginia south to central Florida, and west to eastern Texas and Oklahoma. Widely cultivated around the world, over a hundred cultivars have been

Table of Contents

Sugar Maple

HEIGHT: 60′ to 75′, potential to 100′ to 120′

SPREAD: Usually 2/3 the height

GROWTH RATE: Slow, possibly medium in youth

FALL COLORS: Brilliant yellow, burnt orange and limited red tones

LANDSCAPE NOTES: One of the best of the larger shade and lawn trees; excellent for lawn, park, golf courses, possibly as a street tree. Not for crowded or polluted conditions.

The Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) is native to the hardwood forests of northeastern North America, from Nova Scotia west to southern Ontario, and south to Georgia and Texas. Sugar maple is best known for its bright fall foliage and for b

Table of Contents

Swamp White Oak

HEIGHT: 50′ to 60′
SPREAD: 50′ to 60′ or greater
GROWTH RATE: Fast
FALL COLORS: Brown, yellow-brown or sometimes reddish
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Found in the wild in low lying and more or less swampy situations, often occurring in moist bottomlands and along the banks of streams. Requires acid soil. Acorns 1″ long.

The Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*) is a medium-sized tree of the north central and northeastern mixed forests. It has a very large range, and can survive in a variety of habitats. It grows rapidly and

Sweet Gum (seedless)

HEIGHT: 60′ to 75′

SPREAD: 40′ -50′

GROWTH RATE: Medium to fast. 1′ to 2′ per year in dry soil

FALL COLORS: Rich yellow-purple-red tones. Great variability in fall colors

LANDSCAPE NOTES: Lawn, park, or street tree but needs large area for root development. Plant only "fruitless" form to avoid production of spiny "gumballs".

The Sweetgum, (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) has lobed leaves

Sycamore

HEIGHT: 75′ to 100′; can grow to 150′.

SPREAD: Similar or greater than height

GROWTH RATE: Medium to fast, about 2′ per year over a 10 year period.

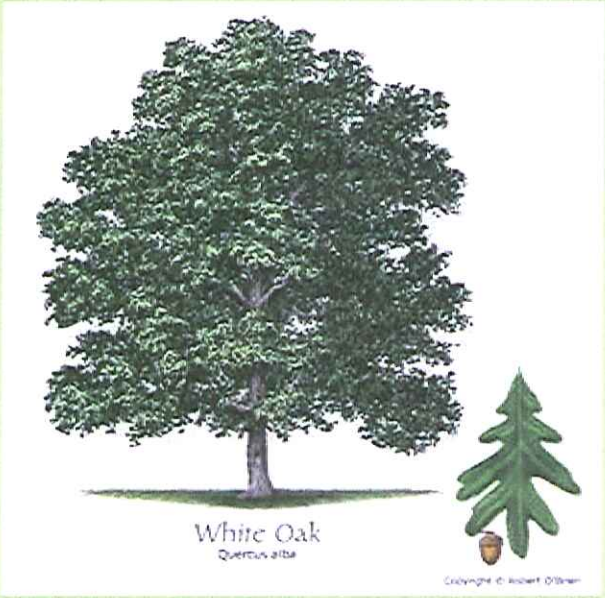
FALL COLORS: Tan to brown

LANDSCAPE NOTES: Some recommend not planting this tree because of its size and constant dropping of leaves, twigs, and fruits.

The American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), American planetree, Occidental plane, and Buttonwood, is native to North America. It is usually called Sycamore in North America, a name which can refer to other types of tree in other parts of the world. An American Sycamore tree can often be easily distinguished from other trees by its mottled exfoliating bark, which flakes off in

Table of Contents

White Oak



HEIGHT: 50′ to 80′
SPREAD: 50′ to 80′
GROWTH RATE: Slow to medium; 12′ to 15′ over a 10 to 12 year period
FALL COLORS: Varies from brown to a rich red to wine color
LANDSCAPE NOTES: A majestic and worthwhile tree for large sites. Acorns 3/4 "to 1″ long.

The White Oak (*Quercus alba*) is one of the pre-eminent hardwoods of eastern North America. It is native to eastern North America and found from southern Quebec west to eastern Minnesota and south to northern Florida and

Willow Oak

HEIGHT: 40′ to 60′; can grow 90′ to 100′ in ideal situations

SPREAD: 30′ to 40′

GROWTH RATE: Medium, 1′ to 2′ per year

FALL COLORS: Yellow, bronze-orange, yellow-brown and russet-red

LANDSCAPE NOTES: Best oak for overall texture and form. Makes a good avenue, street or boulevard tree. Also excellent for large area use.

The Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*) is native to eastern North America from southern New York south to northern Florida, and west to southernmost Illinois and eastern Texas.

Its leaves are bright green above, paler beneath, usually hairless but sometimes downy beneath. It is one of the most

Table of Contents

Zelkova

HEIGHT: 50′ to 80′
SPREAD: Generally less than height
GROWTH RATE: Medium, possibly fast in youth; 10′ to 12′ over a 4 to 6 year period
FALL COLORS: Yellow-orange-brown, possibly deep red to reddish purple.
LANDSCAPE NOTES: Very handsome tree because of good foliage, interesting growth habit and handsome bark; well suited to lawns, residential streets, parks, and large areas.

Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*) is a genus of six species of deciduous trees in the elm family Ulmaceae, native to

Acknowledgements and Errata

*The trees in the UP Shade Tree reimbursement program are all large trees chosen to enhance the town's tree canopy. It is important to carefully consider the ultimate size of the tree when choosing a planting site. Not all properties can accommodate trees on this list.

Information on trees adapted from:
Dirr, Michael A. 1998. Manual of Woody Landscape Plants. Stipes Publishing: Illinois.

Wikipedia.com, accessed November 2012.

Photos from Yahoo.com images

For more information on shade trees and other plants go to:
http://www.arborday.org/Shopping/Trees/all-trees.cfm

Booklet designed and assembled by Linda Verrill, University Park resident

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