

There are no perfect trees. Ask about the characteristics/common problems of trees. Make sure a tree's good points are a good fit for you and your landscape needs; and a tree's bad points are acceptable to you and fit your landscape needs. Color listed is potential fall color. *Trees 30' or less tall.

Good to Great Shade Trees:

- Ginkgo (*G. biloba*) (male cultivars) (Yellow)
- Bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)
- Chinkapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)
- Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)
- Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*) (Red)
- English Oak (*Quercus robur*)
- White Oak (*Quercus alba*) (Brown to red)
- Lacebark Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) (yellow to reddish purple)
- Black maple (*Acer saccharum subsp. nigrum*)
- Silver Linden (*Tilia tomentosa*)
- Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)(yellow, brown)
- Kentucky coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*) (Yellow)
- Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)
- *Ohio Buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*) (Reddish)
- Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) (yellow to red)
- *Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk'*)
- *Amur maackie (*Maackia amurensis*) (none)
- *American Hophornbeam (Ironwood) (*Ostrya virginiana*)

Good Shade Trees: (Includes trees that are overplanted, untried, or have an environmental, disease or insect issue.)

- Hybrid Elms ('*Accolade*', '*Frontier*' (burgundy fall color), '*New Horizon*'; '*Pioneer*'; '*Triumph*'; '*Cathedral*'; '*Vanguard*') (Yellow) (NOTE: *Jefferson*, *Prairie Expedition*, *Princeton*, *Discovery* noted as DED resistant)
- Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
- Northern Catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*)
- Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)
- Thornless Honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) (Yellowish)
- American Linden (*Tilia Americana*)
- Littleleaf Linden (*Tilia cordata*) (yellowish)
- Northern Pin Oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*) (red)
- American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)
- Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)
- Hedge maple (*Acer campestris*) (yellowish)
- 'Red Sunset' red maple (*Acer rubrum*)
- Black Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)
- *River Birch (*Betula nigra*) (Yellow)
- *Quaking Aspen (*Populus tremuloides* "Prairie Gold" only) Yellow
- *European Mountain-ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*) (yellow to reddish)

- *Washington Hawthorn (*Crataegus phaenopyrum*)
- Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides* "Emerald Queen" or "Emerald luster", 'Deborah', 'Parkway') (yellow) (could get verticillium wilt)

Shade Trees Worth Trying (untested in our area, but should do fine):

- State Street or Miyabei Maple (*Acer miyabei 'Morton'*) (yellow)
- Shingle Oak (*Quercus imbricaria*) (yellow brown to red brown)
- Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*)
- Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*)
- Bitternut Hickory (*Carya cordiformis*)
- Turkish Filbert (*Corylus colurna*)
- Katsuratree (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*)
- Common Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)
- *Paperbark Maple (*Acer griseum*) (bronzy)
- *Japanese Pagodatree (*Sophora japonica*)

Shade Trees to Use in Protected Locations:

- Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) (yellow, orange)
- Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*)
- Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) (yellow)
- American Beech (*Fagus grandiflora*) (Bronze)
- *Goldenrain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) (yellow)
- *Saucer Magnolia (*M. x soulangiana*)
- Star Magnolia (*M. stellata*)

Okay Shade Trees to Plant, But....: (Includes fast growing trees that tend to be brittle, have surface roots, or other issues like chlorosis. Only plant if a fast growing tree is a must but can be replaced with a nearby slower growing tree).

- Freeman Maples like 'Autumn Blaze', 'Autumn Fantasy', 'Celebration' (*Acer X freemanii*)
- Green Vase Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*)
- Plains Cottonwood (*Populus sargentii*)
- White Poplar (*Populus alba*)
- Willows (*Salix*)

Trees to AVOID Planting (Have many undesirable characteristics and/or serious pest issues and/or hardiness issues):

- Austrees (*Salix alba x matsudana*)
- Silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*)

Shade Trees to AVOID Planting Continued:

Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*)
Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) (red)
Green or White ash (including purple which is white ash) *Fraxinus* species (yellow)
Sawtooth oak (*Quercus acutissima*) (great tree, but seems to die frequently - hardiness?)
Royal Pawlonia (Empress Tree)
*Aspen (most *Populus tremuloides*) (yellow)
Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
*Ornamental/Callery pears (*Pyrus* species) (invasive issues beginning)
*European White Birch (*Betula pendula*)
“Autumn Blaze” Maple

EVERGREEN CONIFERS:

Good to Great Evergreens:

Ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*)
Southwestern white pine (*Pinus reflexa* (*strobiformis*))
Concolor fir (*Abies concolor*)
Norway spruce (*Picea abies*)
White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
*‘Fat Albert’ Spruce (*Picea pungens* ‘Fat Albert’)
Balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*)
Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* var. *Glauca*)

Okay to Good Evergreens: (Includes trees that are overplanted, untried, or have an environmental, disease or insect issue.)

Colorado blue spruce (*Picea pungens*)
Black Hills spruce (*Picea glauca* var. *densata*)
Jack pine (sandy soils only) (*Pinus banksiana*)
Austrian pine (*Pinus australis*)
*Chinese Juniper (*Juniperus chinensis*)
*Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)

Evergreens Worth Trying (untested in our area, but could do fine):

Siberian Spruce (*Picea obovate*)
Serbian Spruce (*Picea omorika*)
Meyer Spruce (*Picea meyeri*)
Swiss Stone Pine (*Pinus cembra*)
Korean Pine (*Pinus koraiensis*)
Bosnian Pine (*Pinus heldreichii* var. *leucodermis*)

Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*)
Caanan fir (*Abies balsamea* var. *phanerolepsis*)
Korean fir (*Abies koreana*)
Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga Canadensis*)

Evergreens to Use in Protected Locations:

White pine (*Pinus strobus*)
*‘Techny’ Eastern Arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis* ‘Techny’)
Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga Canadensis*) (shady locations)
*Japanese Yew (*Taxus cuspidate*) (shade)

Evergreens to AVOID Planting:

Scotch pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)

Deciduous Conifers to Plant

Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
American Larch (*Larix laricina*)
Japanese Larch (*Larix kaempferi*)