

# Landscape Trees for Specific Uses

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Trees add a great deal of value to our landscapes. They add value in a variety of ways including providing shade, reducing energy costs on buildings and homes, increasing property values, stabilizing soil, improving the health of our environment and adding beauty to our landscapes.

Trees are planted in the landscape for a variety of aesthetic and environmental reasons. In locations where trees may be planted near or under utility wires, the ultimate size of the tree must be considered so long-term conflicts do not develop. A number of large shrubs or small trees can provide planting options near or under utility

wires (Table 1). Trees also offer options as street trees (Table 2), in narrow planting situations (Table 3), and as lawn or shade trees (Table 4). Some trees are less desirable than others due to short lifespan or excessive debris from flowers, fruits or brittle wood (Table 5). Before planting any vegetation, contact Arkansas 811 ([call811.com/map-page/arkansas](http://call811.com/map-page/arkansas); 1-800-482-8998 or call 811) to locate any underground utilities. Unless

specified otherwise in local ordinances, trees and other vegetation should not be planted within 10 feet of any utility service equipment, including access boxes for buried power lines.



**Shantung maple (Table 1)**



**Fastigiata tuliptree (Table 3)**



**Green Vase Zelkova (Table 2)**



**White oak (Table 4)**

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**Table 1. Large shrubs/small trees appropriate under power lines.**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Landscape Size: height x width	Remarks
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Trident Maple	25' x 20'	Fall color variable and rare
<i>Acer ginnala</i>	Amur Maple	18' x 15'	Flame fall color
<i>Acer griseum</i>	Paperbark Maple	20' x 10'	Exceptional bark; partial sun
<i>Acer palmatum</i> 'Bloodgood'/'Trompenburg'	Japanese Maple	variable	
<i>Acer tataricum</i>	Tatarian Maple	20' x 20'	Variable fall color
<i>Acer truncatum</i> ('Fire Dragon')	Shantung Maple	20' x 20'	Yellow/orange fall color
<i>Betula nigra</i> ('Little King')	River Birch	12' x 12'	Dense, compact, oval crown
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam	25' x 25'	Variable fall color (orange/red)
<i>Cercis canadensis</i> ('Oklahoma', 'Forest Pansy')	Eastern Redbud	20' x 20'	No fall color; showy pink/purple flowers late March/early April
<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	Chinese Fringetree	20' x 24'	No fall color; attractive white flowers late April
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	White Fringetree	25' x 25'	No fall color; attractive white flowers mid-April
<i>Cornus kousa/florida</i>	Dogwood	20' x 25'	Exceptional flowers; avoid full sun
<i>Cotinus coggygria</i> ('Royal Purple', 'Velvet Cloak')	Smoketree	12' x 12'	Intense purple foliage; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Cotinus</i> x 'Grace'		15' x 10'	
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Goldenraintree	25' x 25'	Attractive, yellow flowers summer; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Lagerstroemia</i> sp. (many suitable cultivars)	Crapemyrtle	8' to 40' tall	Summer flowers; attractive bark; some with fall color
<i>Maclura pomifera</i> var <i>inermis</i> ('Wichita', 'White Shield')	Thornless Osage-orange	25' x 28'	No fall color
<i>Magnolia stellata</i> / <i>M. kobus</i>	Star Magnolia	15' x 15'	Attractive white flowers March; no fall color
<i>Magnolia</i> hybrids ('Jane', 'Ricki', 'Susan')	Magnolia	15' x 15'	No fall color
<i>Magnolia</i> x <i>soulangiana</i>	Saucer Magnolia	25' x 25'	White/pink saucer flowers March
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Sweetbay Magnolia	18' x 12'	Semi-evergreen
<i>Malus</i> sp. (many suitable cultivars)	Crabapple	6' to 20' tall	Attractive flowers late March/early April; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Morus alba</i> 'Pendula'	Weeping White Mulberry	15' x 15'	Specimen; weeping habit
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistache	25' x 25'	Fall color variable; male clones preferred
<i>Prunus serrulata</i> 'Kwanzan'	Japanese Flowering Cherry	15' x 15'	Crown shaped like a martini glass
<i>Prunus</i> x <i>yedoensis</i>	Yoshino Cherry	20' x 25'	Attractive light pink flowers late March/early April; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Rhus glabra</i> / <i>R. copallina</i>	Smooth Sumac/ Flameleaf Sumac	18' x 18'	Red fall color; suckering habit
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> ('Shoal Creek')	Chaste Tree	18' x 18'	Summer/fall flowering

**Table 2. Trees appropriate in urban settings as street trees.**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Landscape Size: height x width	Remarks
<i>Acer rubrum</i> (Red Sunset™, October Glory™)	Red Maple	65' x 60'	Red fall color; sunscald serious consideration
<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'	European Hornbeam	25' x 15'	Yellowish fall color
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	Turkish Filbert	45' x 25'	Strong pyramidal shape
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> (male)	Ginkgo	70' x 55'	Butter yellow fall color
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i> ('Moraine', 'Shademaster', 'Skyline')	Thornless Honeylocust	45' x 45'	Small leaf litter; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i> – male ('Espresso', Prairie Titan™)	Kentucky Coffeetree	60' x 60'	
<i>Lagerstroemia</i> sp. ('Biloxi', 'Osage')	Crapemyrtle	15' to 40' tall	Summer flowers
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> (mostly seedless cultivars such as 'Rotundiloba', Cherokee™)	Sweetgum	55' x 45'	
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	Dawn Redwood	55' x 30'	Burnt orange fall color
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	American Hornbeam	40' x 25'	
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistache	25' x 25'	Fall color variable; male clones preferred
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Baldcypress	60' x 35'	
<i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Greenspire'	Littleleaf Linden	45' x 30'	Best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Ulmus americana</i> 'Creole Queen'/'Princeton'	American Elm	65' x 50'	Look for Dutch Elm Disease (DED) resistant varieties
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> (Allee™, Athena™)	Chinese/Lacebark Elm	40' x 35'	
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> (Green Vase™, 'Village Green')	Zelkova	35' x 35'	Vase shaped

**Table 3. Narrow or columnar trees.**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Landscape Size: height x width	Remarks
<i>Acer x freemanii</i> 'Armstrong'	Freeman Maple	50' x 15'	
<i>Acer rubrum</i> 'Bowhall'	Red Maple	50' x 15'	Sunscald serious consideration
<i>Acer saccharum</i> 'Newton Sentry'	Sugar Maple	35' x 10'	Best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'	European Hornbeam	25' x 15'	
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> 'Princeton Sentry', 'Goldspire'	Ginkgo	55' x 15'	
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> 'Slender Silhouette'	Sweetgum	65' x 15'	Bears fruit; extremely narrow upright
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> 'Arnold'/'Fastigiatum'	Tuliptree	55' x 15'	
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Little Gem'/'Alta®	Southern Magnolia	45' x 20'	
<i>Quercus robur</i> 'Fastigiata'	English Oak	50' x 18'	
<i>Quercus x Crimson Spire™/Regal Prince®/'Streetsprire'/'Skinny Genes'/'Kindred Spirit'</i>	Oak	45' x 15'	
<i>Taxodium ascendens</i> 'Prairie Sentinel'	Pondcypress	45' x 15'	
<i>Taxodium distichum</i> Shawnee Brave®	Bald Cypress	65' x 18'	
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Musashino'	Zelkova	45' x 15'	

**Table 4. Shade or lawn trees.**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Landscape Size: height x width	Remarks
<i>Acer rubrum</i> ('Autumn Flame', Red Sunset™, October Glory™)	Red Maple	65' x 60'	Outstanding red fall color; sunscald serious consideration
<i>Acer saccharum</i> (Fall Fiesta™, 'Legacy')	Sugar Maple	65' x 60'	Outstanding flame fall color; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Acer x freemanii</i> (Autumn Blaze™)	Freeman Maple	60' x 50'	Very fast growing
<i>Betula nigra</i> Heritage®/Dura-Heat®	River Birch	40' x 35'	Beautiful exfoliating bark when young
<i>Betula x Royal Frost</i> ®	Birch	40' x 25'	White bark when young; purple leaves
<i>Cedrus atlantica</i> 'Glauca'	Blue Atlas Cedar	50' x 60'	Silver blue needles
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i> – male ('Espresso', Prairie Titan™)	Kentucky Coffeetree	60' x 60'	
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> (mostly seedless cultivars such as 'Rotundiloba', Cherokee™)	Sweetgum	55' x 45'	
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tuliptree	80' x 50'	Soft yellow fall color; very fast growing
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia	75' x 65'	
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	Dawn Redwood	55' x 30'	Copper brown fall color
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Tupelo	50' x 50'	True red fall color
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak	75' x 65'	Maroon fall color
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak	60' x 60'	Fall color not significant
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak	70' x 70'	Maroon fall color
<i>Quercus falcata</i>	S. Red Oak	75' x 75'	Fall color not significant
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Shingle Oak	60' x 60'	Yellow-brown fall color; weak wooded
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinkapin Oak	50' x 50'	Fall color not significant
<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Water Oak	75' x 75'	No fall color
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	65' x 50'	Maroon fall color
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Willow Oak	60' x 40'	Muted orange fall color
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	N. Red Oak	70' x 70'	Maroon fall color
<i>Quercus shumardii</i> / <i>Q. buckleyi</i>	Shumard Oak	70' x 70'	Orange red fall color
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress	60' x 35'	Copper brown fall color
<i>Tilia cordata</i> ('Greenspire')	Littleleaf Linden	45' x 30'	Fragrant flowers in June; best suited Northwest Arkansas
<i>Ulmus americana</i> ('Princeton')	American Elm	70' x 55'	Select DED resistant varieties
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> (Allee™, Athena™)	Chinese/Lacebark Elm	40' x 35'	
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> (Green Vase™, 'Village Green')	Zelkova	35' x 35'	Vase shaped; best suited Northwest Arkansas



**Table 5. Trees to avoid (weak wooded, messy debris).**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Remarks
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Boxelder	Weak wooded; messy
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple	Weak wooded
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	Weak wooded
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa	Weak wooded; weedy
<i>Catalpa</i> sps.	Catalpa	Weak wooded; messy flowers
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash	Weak wooded; emerald ash borer
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	Messy fruits; brittle wood
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Royal Paulownia	Weedy; weak wooded
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore	Messy fruits, leaves; brittle wood
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	E. Cottonwood	Weak wooded; weedy



**Sweetgum – messy fruits**

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