

Tree and Shrub Species for Conservation Plantings (Spring 2014)

EVERGREEN TREES

Afghanistan Pine (*Pinus eldarica*) – Zones 7-8a

This is a fast-growing pine best adapted to arid zones and alkali soils. It is not cold hardy. It retains its branches to the ground with needles 4-6 inches long. It is susceptible to pine tip moth and cotton root rot. It reaches a mature height of 40-50 feet with a spread of 20-30 feet.



Austrian Pine (*Pinus nigra*) – Zones 6-7

This pine retains its branches to the ground developing a compact crown with dark green needles. It is resistant to pine tip moth and has moderate tolerance to alkali soils. It reaches a mature height of 30-50 feet with a spread of 20-25 feet.



Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) – Zone 6

This is a relatively slow-growing tree with a compact crown and bluish needles. It should not be used as a single row windbreak because of the slow growth. It grows best on deep, moist but well-drained soils. It reaches a mature height of 45-60 feet with a spread of 30-35 feet.



Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*) – Zones 7-9

This is a beautiful, stately tree. It prefers deep, loamy, non-alkaline soils. This tree is not very cold tolerant but is drought hardy once established. It reaches a mature height of 30-40 feet with a spread of 20-30 feet.



Italian Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*) – Zones 7-9

This is a moderately fast-growing pine adapted to arid and semi-arid zones. It is not cold hardy. It self-prunes the lower branches as it gets older. It reaches a mature height of 40-50 feet with a spread of 30-35 feet.



Oriental Arborvitae (*Thuja orientalis*) – All zones

This tree grows well on a variety of soils. It is very drought hardy and will grow on sites where many other evergreens are not recommended. It reaches a mature height of 25-35 feet with a spread of 15-25 feet.



Oak, Chinkapin (*Quercus muhlenbergii*) – All zones

This is a relatively fast-growing native oak. It prefers deep, moist, well-drained soils. The acorn is ½ inch in diameter and is excellent food for squirrel and deer. It reaches a mature height of 40-50 feet with a spread of 30-40 feet.



Oak, Sawtooth (*Quercus acutissima*) – Zones 7-9

This is an introduced species that has been planted primarily for wildlife. It is a prolific acorn producer at a relatively early age (5-8 years old). It will grow on a variety of sites but is not well-suited to shallow, caliche soils. It reaches a mature height of 40-60 feet with a spread of 40-50 feet.



Oak, Shumard (*Quercus shumardii*) – All zones

This is considered to be a relatively fast-growing red oak. It has a large crown with leaves that turn scarlet-red in the fall and persist through most of the winter. It is adapted to a variety of sites, but prefers deep soils. It reaches a mature height of 30-55 feet with a spread of 30-40 feet.



Osage Orange (*Maclura pomifera*) – All zones

This native tree boasts extremely dense wood, orange wood that is rot resistant, making it a favorite for fence posts as well as firewood. It is adaptable to poorer soils and is drought and heat tolerant. It reaches a mature height of 30-40 feet with a spread of 20-25 feet.



Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*) – Zones 7-9

This native tree is a favorite of many landowners. It is moderately drought hardy and has a low tolerance to alkali soils. It prefers deep, well-drained soils. It is known for its nut, which is eaten by many wildlife species. It is also the state tree of Texas. It reaches a mature height of 60-70 feet with a spread of 50-60 feet.



SHRUBS

Aromatic Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*) – All zones

This is a native plant that provides excellent food and cover for wildlife. It is a good low-growing species for the outside row of a windbreak and is adapted to a variety of site conditions. It reaches a mature height of 4-6 feet with a spread of 6-10 feet.



Fourwing Saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*) – Zones 6-8a

This is an excellent shrub for wildlife plantings as it offers low cover as well as being a preferred, palatable and nutritious plant. Its deep roots make it useful for erosion control as well. It is extremely drought and heat tolerant. It reaches a mature height of 4-8 feet with a spread of 5-10 feet.

