Native Trees for Urban Street Plantings

March 2012, RGNA Park & Garden Committee

Notes

SMALL TREES (mature height under 30 feet)

Amelanchier laevis Serviceberry

Amelanchier x grandiflora Serviceberry (many cultivars)

Carpinus caroliniana Hornbeam

Cercis canadensis American redbud low salt tolerance

Crataegus crusgalli var. Inermis Thornless cockspur hawthorn

Prunus virginiana Common chokecherry fruits ~1/3" diameter

Prunus virginiana cv. Shubert Canada Red or Shubert chokeberry

Magnolia virginiana Sweetbay magnolia needs acid soil; tolerates wet

soil

MEDIUM TREES (mature height 30 to 40 feet)

Gleditsia triacanthos var. Inermis Thornless honeylocust Ostrya virginiana Hop-hornbeam

LARGE TREES (mature height over 45 feet)

Acer rubrum cv. Autumn FlameRed maple60'Acer rubrum cv. Red SunsetRed maple45 -50'

Celtis occidentalis Hackberry 60' (rarely to 100') low salt tolerance

Gymnocladus dioicus Kentucky coffeetree 60-75' (rarely to 100') use male selections only

Nyssa sylvatica Black gum, Tupelo 50' (rarely to 100')

Quercus alba White Oak 50 – 80' (>100' in the wild)

Quercus bicolorSwamp white oak50 - 60'Quercus coccineaScarlet Oak70 - 75'Quercus palustrisPin oak60 - 75'

Quercus rubraNorthern red oak60 - 75' (> 100' in the wild)Tilia americanaBasswood, Linden60 - 80' (> 100' in the wild)

Ulmus americana cv. Liberty or Delaware #2American elm60 - 80'Ulmus rubraSlippery elm40 - 60'

NARROW STREETS

Acer rubrum cv. ArmstrongFastigiate red maple50 -70'high x 15'wideAcer saccharum cv. GoldspireGoldspire maple50+ ft. high x 25 - 30' wideQuercus palustris cv. PringreenGreen Pillar pin oak45 + ft. high x 15' wide

BOULEVARD or PARK TREES (includes all LARGE TREES listed above, plus ---

Acer saccharumSugar mapleCarya cordiformisBitternut hickoryCarya glabraPignut hickoryCarya ovataShagbark hickoryCarya tomentosaMockernut hickoryJuniperus virginianaEastern red cedar

Liriodendron tulipifera Tuliptree

Abbreviations: var. = variety; cv. = cultivar

List derived from:

Recommended Street Tree List for City of Philadelphia, provided by Fairmount Park, and Trees Suitable for Urban Street Plantings, provided by USDA, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences

Native trees are the best choice to enhance and help restore the City's ecosystem. With Allentown being the first City in Pennsylvania to receive Pennsylvania Audubon's "BirdTown" designation, let's be responsible BirdTown Coalition members and go native! About 96% of North American terrestrial bird species rely on native insects to feed their young and only native plants that share an evolutionary history with these insect species can support them as a necessary food source to help prevent the further decline of our bird populations and other wildlife species.

<u>Native plant websites</u>: usna.usda.gov/invasivesalternatives; usdaplants.gov(plant profiles); edgeofthewoodsnursery.com; iconservepa.org; nwf.org; pa.audubon.org/bird habitat