












## **30 Recommended Trees for Louisville**

### **Small to Medium Trees**




*Locations with overhead wire, near homes, or street plantings with less than 4 ft. easement*

	<p><i>Acer buergeranum</i>, Trident maple</p>	<p>Full sun (non-native) Height: 20-25' Spread: 20-25'</p> <p>Tolerates shade, moderate drought and salt tolerance, suitable for median and easement plantings.</p>
	<p><i>Acer griseum</i>, Paperbark Maple</p>	<p>Full sun (non-native) Height: 20-25' Spread: 15-20'</p> <p>Tough and stunning, this Japanese native puts on a bright display of flowers after our native flowering dogwoods are finished. Tolerates shade, moderate drought and salt tolerance, suitable for median and easement plantings.</p>
	<p><i>Amelanchier laevis</i>, Serviceberry (zones 4-9)</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 15-25'</p> <p>Attractive, white spring flowers; orange fall foliage. Tolerates shade, moderate drought and salt tolerance, suitable for median and easement plantings, sensitive to or more pests and diseases.</p>
	<p><i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>, Yellowwood</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 30-50' Spread: 40-55'</p> <p>This tree has smooth bark and lime green foliage. The name 'kentukea' is the only tree species name that references KY directly. Moderate drought tolerance, usually pest free.</p>

	<p><i>Asimina triloba</i>, Pawpaw</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 15-20' Spread: 15-20'</p> <p>The Pawpaw is a native plant that produces the largest edible fruit in North America. Only suitable for yard plantings due to the prohibition in the Land Development Code. Pawpaw grows quickly if mulched and watered; it is drought-sensitive when grown in sun. Seedlings should be planted in shade for the first year as they are sensitive to ultraviolet light.</p>
	<p><i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>, American Hornbeam</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 30' Spread: 25'</p> <p>The wood is smooth and is one of the hardest woods in our area. Other common names are ironwood and blue beech. This tree is an excellent easement tree and tolerates the shade of other trees.</p>
	<p><i>Cercis canadensis</i>, Eastern Redbud</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 25-35'</p> <p>Folk healers used the bark of eastern redbud to treat diarrhea and leukemia. The light magenta flowers are edible and look and taste great on fresh salads. High drought tolerance, few pests, low salt tolerance.</p>
	<p><i>Continus obavatus</i>, American Smoketree</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 15-20'</p> <p>These native trees have a shrub like growth pattern. Poor salt tolerance, no pests or diseases. Ideal for yard plantings.</p>




	<p><i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>, White Fringetree</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 12-20' Spread: 12-20'</p> <p>When flowering, white fringetree is one of the most beautiful native trees. Fringetree's fruit ripens August-September. Foliage partially hides the fruit, which birds love to eat. Tolerant of air pollution but not drought.</p>
	<p><i>Cornus florida</i>, White Dogwood</p>	<p>Partial shade (native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 15-20'</p> <p>The inner root of the flowering dogwood contains the alkaloid cornin, which Native Americans used to treat malaria. Tough and stunning, the Dogwood is an excellent landscape choice in all four seasons. Flowers are showy in spring, leaves turn red-purple in fall, and glossy red fruits attract winter songbirds. Likes partial shade and moist, acid, well-drained soil.</p>
	<p><i>Crataegus species</i>, Hawthorn</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 20-30'</p> <p>Green hawthorn is an adaptable, urban-tolerant tree that offers winter interest with its abundant and attractive orange-red fruit. It has pretty red to gold foliage in fall and handsome silver-gray peeling bark that shows orange underneath. Be careful of the thorns! Great tree for fall and winter wildlife watching. Salt tolerance medium to high.</p>






	<p><i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>, Common Witchhazel</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 15-20'</p> <p>Witchhazel bark has been mixed with water and alcohol to make an astringent for sores and bruises. Witchhazel has no serious disease or insect problems, although it may develop galls on the bottom of its leaves if planted near birch trees.</p>
	<p><i>Ostrya virginiana</i>, American Hop Hornbeam</p>	<p>Part shade-full sun (native) Height: 25-40' Spread: 15-25'</p> <p>The wood of this birch species is extremely dense. Like all other trees with the common name suffix of -beam, it once was used as a "beam" to yoke oxen. Although not sensitive to drought, it can't survive flooding. It is also very sensitive to de-icing salt. No serious pest problems, although it can be susceptible to chestnut borer if under stress.</p>
	<p><i>Syringa reticulata</i>, Japanese Tree Lilac</p>	<p>Full sun (non-native) Height: 20-30' Spread: 15-20'</p> <p>A true lilac, the flowers of this small tree are striking and fragrant. No serious insect or disease problems. This lilac is considered to be a low maintenance plant with excellent resistance to powdery mildew and other common lilac diseases. Young leaves are susceptible to frost injury in spring. Moderate drought tolerance, full sun.</p>





## Canopy Trees





*If you've got plenty of room to grow, these trees are a great choice!*

	<p><i>Betula nigra</i>, River Birch</p>	<p>Partial shade-full sun Height: 40-70' Spread: 40-60'</p> <p>River birch is the most widely distributed birch in the United States and the best one for hot climates. The ripening of river birch seed in May-June coincides with high water levels of rivers. This allows the seed to be carried long distances by the water. The seed germinates quickly in mud, allowing it to grow in areas to prevent erosion. It can have problems with leaf spot, birch leaf miner and aphids, but it is the only birch that is immune to the bronze birch borer.</p>
	<p><i>Catalpa speciosa</i>, Northern Catalpa</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 40-60' Spread: 20-40'</p> <p>Northern catalpa has showy flowers, but it is more recognized for the long hanging pods that cling to the branches after the leaves fall. These pods give the tree its other common name: the cigar tree. Catalpa tolerates drought and can withstand a variety of soils and moisture levels, including poor, dry, wet, compacted, or alkaline soils.</p>
	<p><i>Celtis occidentalis</i>, Hackberry</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 40-60' Spread: 40+'</p> <p>An under-appreciated urban tree, the hackberry is a hardy and attractive native species. Longterm health usually not affected by pests.</p>



	<p><i>Ginkgo biloba</i> (male), Ginkgo</p>	<p>Full sun (non-native) Height: 50-80' Spread: 30-40'</p> <p>The Ginkgo is literally a living fossil that was preserved from extinction by Buddhist monks for over 1000 years. A truly special tree with fan shaped leaves that turn golden in the fall. Poor salt tolerance, high drought tolerance, and pest-resistant.</p>
	<p><i>Gymnocladus dioica</i> (male), Kentucky Coffee Tree</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 50-70' Spread: 40-50'</p> <p>The coffeetree has decorative clusters of large pods that rattle in the wind. Early European settlers used these seeds to make a "Pioneer coffee." This tree is our State Heritage Tree. No pests or disease of major concern. Ideal shade tree for urban plantings, poor salt tolerance, high drought tolerance.</p>
	<p><i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>, Tulip Poplar</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 70-90' Spread: 35-50'</p> <p>The Kentucky State Tree. Tulip poplar was used by Native Americans to make dugout canoes. The tulip poplar flower attracts bees and hummingbirds. Tulip Poplar grows tall and straight very quickly. Its rapid growth, pyramidal form, insect and disease resistant, poor salt tolerance and large size make it a great candidate for off-street plantings with ample room.</p>



	<p><i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>, Sweetgum</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 60-70' (up to 120' in the wild) Spread: 40-50'</p> <p>Sweetgum is an excellent urban tree provided it has a large area for root development. It has a dense, glossy green foliage in summer and has leaves of several rich colors in the fall. Has spiky seed balls.</p>
	<p><i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>, Blackgum</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 30-60' Spread: 20-40'</p> <p>This native tree has one of the most amazing fall color displays, turning from a deep green to salmon to deep scarlet. Good salt tolerance, high drought tolerance, no known pests, fungi potential problem.</p>
	<p><i>Platanus acerifolia</i>, London Planetree</p>	<p>Full sun (non-native) Height: 70-90' Spread: 35-50'</p> <p>A sycamore relative, the London Plane Tree is fast growing with interesting bark, and is a favorite of urban foresters. Moderate salt tolerance, high drought tolerance, very sensitive to aphids and sycamore lace bugs, some fungi cause leaf spots.</p>
	<p><i>Quercus alba</i>, White Oak</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 50-80' Spread: 30-50'</p> <p>This tree has a special connection to Louisville as its wood is used to make bourbon barrels. A mature oak can host up to 5,000 different species of invertebrate that will form the basis for a healthy food chain that benefits birds and mammals.</p>

	<p><i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>, Chinkapin Oak</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 40-60' Spread: 30'</p> <p>An under-appreciated urban tree, the Chinkapin Oak thrives on Limestone soils. Its whitish bark and branch structure create a beautiful silhouette in winter while its strong branches make it ideal near structures and homes. High drought tolerance, poor salt tolerance, street tree, no pests or diseases of major concern.</p>
	<p><i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>, Bur Oak</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 70-80' Spread: 80'</p> <p>Tolerant of a variety of moisture and soil conditions, adapts well to urban settings. Its fringed acorns are food for wildlife. A very long-lived tree.</p>
	<p><i>Quercus rubra</i>, Northern Red Oak</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 50-80' Spread: 30-40'</p> <p>This stately oak is valued for its shade and size. The leaves turn crimson red in the fall. High salt tolerance, high drought tolerance, long term health usually not affected by pests.</p>
	<p><i>Tilia americana</i>, Basswood Linden</p>	<p>Full sun (native) Height: 60-80' Spread: 30-40'</p> <p>Basswood is a soft wood used for carving. These trees often grow large sprouts from the base. Moderate drought tolerance, low salt tolerance. Aphids and Japanese beetle may pose threat, Anthracnose, leaf blight, canker, leaf spots are potential diseases.</p>



	<p><i>Ulmus alata</i>, Winged Elm</p>	<p>Shade-full sun (native) Height: 60-90' Spread: 50-70'</p> <p>Also known as Wahoo, the winged elm forms an attractive pyramidal canopy shape. It is easily recognized by the corky "wings" along its branches. Successfully grown in urban areas, high drought tolerance, low salt tolerance.</p>
	<p><i>Aesculus flava</i>, Yellow Buckeye</p>	<p>Part shade-full sun (native) Height: 60-75' Spread: 30'</p> <p>Yellow buckeye is more tolerant of urban stresses than other buckeyes. In the appropriate location, it makes a nice shade tree. Yellow buckeye is less susceptible to leaf scorch than other buckeyes, and mildew and lacebugs are not as problematic with this tree as they are with other buckeyes. This tree does not grow well in poor, dry or clay soils.</p>