

Agenda, City of Bloomington Tree Commission
Monday 15 August 2022, 10-11 am, Switchyard Park

Introduction

1. Introductions

Consent agenda

2. Approval of Minutes of 18 July 2022, meeting (in your email)
3. Next meeting will be Monday, September 9, 10am, Switchyard Park

Discussions and Presentations

4. Public comment, if any
5. Engineering presentations

Reports

6. Urban Forester's Report (Tim Street)
7. Update on Urban Forester position (Tim Street)

Special focus of this meeting

7. The topic of this meeting is a. the tree species listed in the UDO portion of the Bloomington Municipal Code and b. the tree species listed in the Tree Care Manual. These should be reconciled with each other and with current practice.

Topics for discussion

I. In all publications, should we use some special designation for native trees, e.g., printing them in **bold**?

II. The regulations in the UDO supersede the regulations listed in the Tree Care Manual. The current UDO is newer than the Tree Care Manual. Tree Care Manual tree lists are an earlier attempt to codify what is now codified in the UDO.

III. The UDO and the Tree Care Manual are directed at different audiences.

The UDO species lists are legal technical specifications directed at landscape architects and designers who are working on plans for developments to be approved by the City.

The Tree Care Manual is directed at residents of the City of Bloomington. It is the principal educational resource that the Tree Commission creates to inform citizens about the choice, planting, and maintenance of trees. The City hands it out at public events such as the Farmers' Market and Arbor Day. It is available in several formats (online, in print). It is written in a style and format that is accessible to the general reader. It is the first source that City residents turn to for information about trees. It may be required for our Tree City USA status.

IV. The UDO is Title 20 of the Bloomington Municipal Code
(https://library.municode.com/in/bloomington/codes/code_of_ordinances)

The tree species lists are in Title 20, Section 04 "Development Standards and Incentives," subsection 080, "Landscape, buffering, and fences."

There are three tables relevant to the Tree Commission:
Table 04-14 Permitted Street Tree Species (table attached)
Table 04-15 Permitted Interior Tree Species (table attached)
Table 04-18 Prohibited Plant Species (table attached)

These lists include:

1. **Permitted** trees --- trees that can be included in any plan, with no complaints, "by right."
2. **Prohibited** plant species --- trees that may not be included in any plan because they are invasive trees or because they have poor growing characteristics.
3. Any other trees may be included in a plan, subject to the approval of the Urban Forester and the Tree Commission. (These are the engineering plans that we often review at our meetings.)

V: Suggested revisions to the UDO.

Table 04-14 Permitted Street Tree Species.

Erin revised this list earlier in the spring. This is the PDF Tim sent to us. It was submitted to Council by Planning and Transportation as part of a larger packet of revisions to the UDO, and approved, although it does not yet appear in the current version online.

Recommendation: leave this list as is.

Table 04-15 Permitted Interior Tree Species

The Tree Commission has jurisdiction over street trees, which are owned by the City; it does not have jurisdiction over private trees such as these interior trees.

Recommendation: revise this list and include it in the Tree Care Manual under a title like “Here are some trees you might not have thought of planting.”

Table 04-18 Prohibited Plant Species

The Tree Commission can edit this list and suggest to the Urban Forester that it be included in the next set of revisions to the UDO.

Recommendation: edit Prohibited Invasive Trees and Prohibited Plants with Poor Characteristics.

Consider adding Japanese tree lilac (Syringa reticulata) to the list as per: Mary’s note. Note that elm (ulmus) currently appears in both the permitted and the prohibited tree lists.

VI. The current version of the Tree Care Manual is dated 2017, prior to the completion of the tree species lists in the UDO.

Lists of tree species appear under the section “Bloomington Approved Street Tree Species.” There are nine tables: (copy attached)

Table 1: Small tree

Table 2a: Crabapple recommended

Table 2b: Crabapple not recommended

Table 3: Medium tree

Table 4: Large tree

Table 5: Undesirable species for street trees

Table 6: Tolerant of urban conditions

Table 7: Slow to recover from transplanting

Table 8: Planting season by species

VII. Crabapples

Crabapples are on the UDO list of prohibited plants with poor characteristics.

Recommendation: omit the crabapple tables.

VII. Miscellaneous tree species lists

Table 5: Undesirable species for street trees

Recommendation: replace with the UDO Prohibited Invasive Trees and Prohibited Plants with Poor Characteristics

Table 6: Tolerant of urban conditions

Recommendation: omit this table.

Table 7: Slow to recover from transplanting

Recommendation: omit this table.

Table 8: Planting season by species

Recommendation: omit this table.

IX. Revise the Tree Care Manual to better serve as an educational resource for City residents

The Tree Care Manual currently contains conflicting recommendations: some of the recommendations are about street trees, and some of the recommendations are about private trees. At the minimum we should separate these two sets of recommendations, especially because street trees already are covered in the UDO.

We can do more. We can include the information about street trees from the UDO. However, we can also do a better job of educating residents about what kinds of trees are good to plant by establishing some principles for selecting trees and by making suggestions of good trees to plant. This is important for two reasons. First, most people who are reading the Tree Care Manual are reading it to learn more about the private trees they plan to plant, not about street trees. Secondly, we can influence what private trees are planted by including specific desirable trees in our lists. For example, very few people are going to plant our native fruit trees --- persimmon and pawpaw --- in their yards unless someone suggests that these are desirable trees to plant.

Recommendation: replace the section “Bloomington Approved Street Tree Species” with a section entitled “Recommended Street Trees and Recommended Private Trees.”

X. Proposed organization for new section “Recommended Street Trees and Recommended Private Trees”

Part 1: Street trees

1. Special needs of street trees
2. Permitted street trees
Table: UDO list of permitted street tree species
3. Invasive trees: Why are they a problem?
Table: UDO list of prohibited invasive trees
4. Trees with undesirable characteristics: What characteristics make a tree bad for a street tree?
Table: UDO list of prohibited trees with poor characteristics

Part 2: Private trees and recommendations for residents

1. Plant more trees. In the past one tree in the front lawn was OK; in an era of climate change we need more tree canopy cover and more trees.
2. Plant native trees. Why are native trees especially valuable?
Table: Native trees: large, medium, small
3. Plant a variety of trees. Diversity is as important among trees as it is among people
Table: Here are some trees you may not have thought of: large, medium, small
4. Plant fruit trees. Fruit trees have innumerable benefits, and you get fruit, too.
Table: Recommended fruit trees. Persimmon, pawpaw go here. Fig? Serviceberry?
Table: Fruit trees to avoid, and why. Apple.
5. Plant nut trees.
Table: Recommended nut trees. Which ones?
Table: Nut trees to avoid and why. Black walnut

Handouts

- 2022 Updated Street Tree List UDO (from Tim Street)
- 2022 20—04 Table 04-18 Prohibited Plant species
- 2017 Tree Care Manual Bloomington approved street tree species list
- 2022 8 2 Ecologic LLC: Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata*)



**Bloomington Tree Commission
Minutes of the meeting, 18 July 2022**

PRESENT: Laurel Cornell (chair, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Studio Art); Stephanie Freeman-Day (PhD Student, SPEA); George Hegeman (Professor Emeritus, Microbiology, IUB); Mary Welz (Sycamore Land Trust Education Director, MC-IRIS Board Member); Dedaimia Whitney (Bloomington Environmental Commission, Indiana Tree Steward); Mia Williams (landscape architect, Indiana University).

ABSENT: Jeff Palmer (Professor Emeritus, Biology, IUB)

GUESTS: Julie Ramey, (Community Relations Manager, Parks and Recreation); Tim Street (Operations Director, Parks Dept)

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes of 27 June, 2022, meeting
Next meeting will be Monday, 15 August, 10 a.m., Switchyard Park

REPORTS

Trees at IU (Mia Williams). IU planted about half a dozen trees in the spring, but they won't be doing any additional planting until fall, because of high temperatures and lack of rainfall. Mia said they are also having staffing problems, particularly with retention.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter of thanks for Kerry Bridges, approved
Letter of thanks for Dave Parkhurst, approved

OLD BUSINESS

Urban Forester position (Tim Street). Posting closes on 27 July. Review of candidates will start in early August, in-person interviews possibly on the 23rd. Salary will be in the low \$50s.

City Legal review of proposed bylaws for the Tree Commission (Tim Street).

1. Instead of listing commissioner duties in the bylaws, they are listed instead in Municipal Code 2.20.15. Several commissioners expressed dissatisfaction with this, as it requires interested person to take several additional steps to get the information.
2. City Legal said the TC does not have the authority to establish term limits. It was suggested that if an individual member's participation becomes problematic, the [possibly] global attendance requirements for city boards and commissions could be used to gently suggest that non-participating members resign.
3. Leadership titles should be president (instead of chair) and vice-president (instead of recorder). Dedaimia was appointed vice-president until the end of the year when new officers are chosen.

Revisions to Tree Care Manual (all)

1. The Tree Commission already regularly updates the tree species recommendations in the Tree Care Manual. Many members of the Tree Commission have current scientific information on which tree species should be recommended, allowed, and prohibited.

Pests and diseases also erupt quickly, making their target species risky for inclusion in the approved lists. Because of this need for timely revision, the TC wants the tree species list to be housed in the Tree Care Manual with a pointer to it in the UDO. Such a change will require City Council approval; Tim said he would try to make this happen.

2. The TC agreed to a yearly update of the Tree Care Manual. After the current revision is completed, there will be a discussion of the optimal time for revision each year.
3. Mary noted a discrepancy between the language regarding tree species in the UDO vs. the Tree Care Manual. She said it caused much confusion; TC agreed it should be reconciled.
4. There is some confusion about where edits sent in by Mary and Mia went after Erin left. Mary has preserved her comments and will forward them to the TC. Laurel suggested we focus on the tree species list first, followed by other textual edits. Our goal will be to have the recommendations about the UDO to the Council by the end of the year. Tim will send the commission the current list, which incorporates Erin's changes.
5. To general agreement, Mary suggested the TC invite public comment about the tree species list once the commission has its work finished.
6. The TC's next meeting will be devoted to reconciling the separate tree species list.

Additional announcements

George said MCPL is considering creating a trail through Batchelor Forest named in honor of Tom Coleman, long-serving member of the TC and one of the creators of the school forest.

Respectfully submitted,

Dedaimia Whitney

Table 04-14: Permitted Street Tree Species

Bold text indicates evergreen species

Common Name	Scientific Name
Large Street Trees - 45 feet or more at mature height	
Black Maple	<i>Acer nigrum</i>
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Sugar Hackberry	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
Thornless Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i>
Kentucky Coffee Tree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflura</i>
Tulip Tree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Blackgum or Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerfolia</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
Overcup Oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Blackjack Oak	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>
Chinkapin Oak	<i>Quercus muhlenbergi</i>
Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>
Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
Basswood or American Linden	<i>Tilia americana</i>
Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>
Medium Street Trees - 25 feet to 45 feet at mature height	
Autumn Flame Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Downy Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>
American Hornbeam or Blue Beech	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis lutea</i>
Hop Hornbeam or Ironwood	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Regal Prince Oak	<i>Quercus x warei</i>
Crimson Spire Oak	<i>Quercus</i>

Table 04-14: Permitted Street Tree Species

Bold text indicates evergreen species

Common Name	Scientific Name
Small Street Trees - Under 25 feet at mature height	
<u>Apollo Maple</u>	<u><i>Acer saccharum</i> "Barrett Cole"</u>
Shadblow Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>
Allegheny Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>
<u>Apple Serviceberry hybrids</u>	<u><i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i></u>
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>
Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>
Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>
Green Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>

Table 04-15: Permitted Interior Tree Species

Bold text indicates evergreen species

Common Name	Scientific Name
Large Trees - 45 feet or more at mature height	
Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>
Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus octandra</i>
Bitternut Hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>
Pignut Hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>
Shellbark Hickory	<i>Carya laciniosa</i>
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>
Mockernut Hickory	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>
Northern Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Cucumber Tree	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>
White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Virginia Pine	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
Canadian or Eastern Hemlock	<i>Tsuga Canadensis</i>
Medium Trees - 25 feet to 45 feet at mature height	
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
American Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
Small Trees - Under 25 feet at mature height	
Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>
Pagoda Dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Prohibited Invasive Trees	
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Tree-of-Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
Black Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>
Russian Olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>
Autumn Olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
Glossy Buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus</i>
White Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>
Princess Tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>
Sawtooth Oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>
Amur Cork Tree	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>
Callery Pear and all cultivars	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>
European or Common Buckthorn and all cultivars	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
Glossy or Smooth Buckthorn and all cultivars	<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>
Buckthorn Tallhedge and all cultivars	<i>Rhamnus frangula columnaris</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Black Locust	Robinia pseudoacacia
Siberian Elm	Ulmus pumila
Prohibited Plants with Poor Characteristics	
Box Elder	Acer negundo
Silver Maple	Acer saccharinum
European White Birch	Betula pendula
Poison Hemlock	Conium maculatum L.
Ash	Fraxinus species
Gingko (female only)	Gingko biloba
Giant Hogweed	Heracleum mantegazziznum
Rice Cutgrass	Leersia oryzoides
Flowering Crabapple	Malus
Wild Parsnip	Pastinaca sativa
American Elm	Ulmus Americana
Poison Ivy	Toxicodendron radicans
Poison Sumac	Toxicodendron vernix
Prohibited Invasive Herbaceous Perennials	
Japanese Chaff Flower	Achyranthes japonica

Bloomington Approved Street Tree Species Lists

Per the City of Bloomington Tree Ordinance, the following tables shall constitute the official street tree species acceptable for planting in Bloomington. These are the tree species with growth characteristics that do well on urban sites. All trees are suited for USDA cold hardiness Zone 5.

The tables also include specifications for the minimum distances to be maintained between trees and other infrastructure when planting new trees within the public right of way.

TABLE 1 - Small Tree Species for Small Spaces

Small trees are defined as those trees attaining a height of 20 to 30 feet at maturity.

Distance from infrastructure

- » Plant no closer than two feet from street, sidewalk, or curb.
- » Minimum grow space of four feet of tree lawn.
- » Small trees may be planted under overhead utility lines.
- » Do not plant within five feet of any underground utility (phone, sewer, water, cable, electric).
- » Do not plant within 10 feet of any utility pole or fire hydrant.
- » Do not plant within three feet of a parking area unless vehicle wheel stops are provided.
- » Trees should not be planted where traffic line of sight is compromised at intersections.
- » Tree pruning may be required as the tree matures to maintain adequate street and sidewalk clearance.

Minimum size

Trees planted in the public street tree lawn must be a minimum 1½-inch diameter caliper (caliper is measured six inches above ground level).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Recommended Cultivars
Allegheny Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	
Apple Serviceberry hybrids	<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>	'Princess Diana' 'Autumn Brilliance'
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Use single-trunk tree form on streets
Flowering Crabapple	<i>Malus sp.</i>	Many different types. See Table 2. Some native to the U.S., others Eurasia
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Plant only on sheltered sites, tree form
Japanese Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	'Ivory Silk'
Kousa Dogwood	<i>Cornus kousa chinensis</i>	
Shadblow Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	
Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	'Inermis' pink flowers, purple leaves
Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phanenopyrum</i>	only where thorns are not problematic
Winter King Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	'Winter King'

TABLE 2 - Recommended Crabapple Cultivars

Trees of the *Malus* (crabapple) species come in many beautiful shapes, sizes, and colors of leaf and flower, making it a popular, highly utilized specimen tree. Some crabapples, however, are plagued with disease, insects, and fruit litter problems. Diseases include scab, fireblight, apple-cedar rust, and powdery mildew. Researchers have bred new cultivars to resist these diseases and insects like the Japanese beetle. Maintenance requirements of crabapples can also be rather high. Often, recurring sprouts must be trimmed from the tree base. Because crabapples can grow quite wide and low, trees planted next to sidewalks, streets, and driveways need to be pruned for adequate clearance. Use of crabapple trees along the street should be reserved for tree lawns of sufficient size to accommodate the eventual width.

Many new cultivars are on the market annually. Purchase only disease-resistant varieties.

The following attractive cultivars, tested by Purdue University, have proven to have good disease and insect tolerance and few problems with fruit drop.

Cultivar	Height	Width	Comments
'Adirondack'	18'	10'	densely covered with white flowers
Baccata 'Jackii'	20'	20'	white flowers, glossy leaves
'Bechtel'	30'	15'	fragrant, large double pink flowers
'Centzam' (Centurion)	20'	15'	rose-red flower, reddish leaves
'David'	12'	12'	good looking year 'round, smaller
'Hargozam' (Harvest Gold)	25'	20'	white flowers, gold fruit
'Pink Spires'	15'	12'	pink flowers, purple leaves
'Prairiefire'	20'	20'	pink-red flowers, excellent tree
'Red Barron'	18'	8'	good for narrow spaces
'Red Jewel' (Jewelcole)	15'	12'	smaller tree, red persistent fruit
'Sinai Fire'	15'	15'	white flowers, weeping shape
'Van Eseltine'	25'	12'	upright vase shape
'Winter Gold'	25'	20'	winter-persistent gold fruit
X zumi 'Calocarpa' (Zumi)	20'	24'	white flower, red persistent fruit

Crabapple Cultivars Not Recommended

The following should not be used because of insect and disease susceptibility.

Cultivar	Cultivar	Cultivar
'Adams'	'Indian Summer'	'Selkirk'
'Basketong'	'Liset'	'Sentinel'
'Brandywine'	'Madonna'	'Snowdrift'
'Candied Apple'	'Mary Potter'	'Sugar Tyme'
'Donald Wyman'	'Prairie Maid'	'Velvet Pillar'
'Doubloons'	'Profusion'	'White Cascade'
'Indian Magic'	'Robinson'	'White Candle'

TABLE 3 - Medium Tree Species for Medium Spaces

Medium trees are defined as those trees attaining a height of 30 to 45 feet at maturity.

Distance from infrastructure

- » Plant no closer than three feet from street, sidewalk, or curb.
- » Minimum grow space of five to six feet of tree lawn.
- » Do not plant under or within 10 lateral feet of any overhead utility lines.
- » Do not plant within five feet of any underground utility (phone, sewer, water, cable, electric).
- » Do not plant within 10 feet of any utility pole or fire hydrant.
- » Do not plant within three feet of a parking area unless vehicle wheel stops are provided.
- » Trees should not be planted where traffic line of sight is compromised at intersections.

Minimum size

Trees planted in the public street tree lawn must be a minimum 1¼ inch diameter caliper (caliper is measured six inches above ground level).

Native tree species are indicated in **bold**.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Recommended Cultivars
American Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	
European Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	'Fastigata'
Golden Raintree*	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	*should come from northern seed sources and nurseries; extreme cold may damage the tree
Katsura Tree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Plant only on sheltered sites, tree form
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	relatively short lived
Turkish Filbert	<i>Corylus colurna</i>	
Whitespire Birch	<i>Betula platyphlla japonica</i>	'Whitespire'
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis lutea</i>	

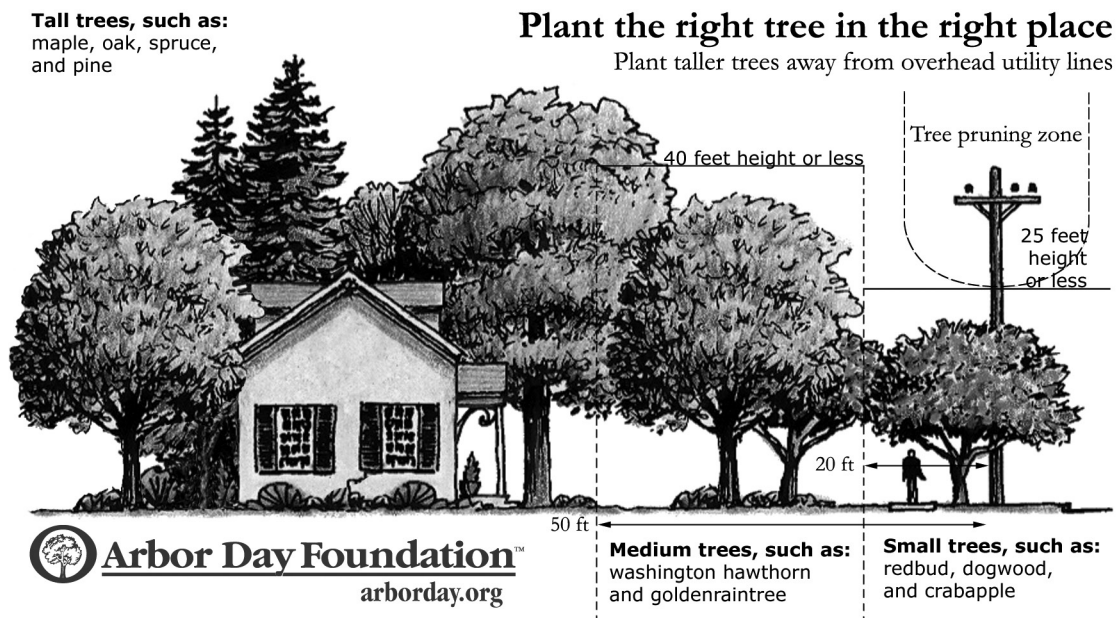


TABLE 4 - Large Trees for Large Spaces

Large trees are defined as those trees attaining a height of 45 feet or more at maturity.

Large shade trees are recommended for planting wherever room allows, as they help increase Bloomington's overall tree canopy and provide numerous environmental benefits. Maple species are not included on this list due to the large existing population of maples in Bloomington.

Distance from infrastructure

- » Plant no closer than four feet from street, sidewalk, or curb.
- » Minimum grow space of eight feet of tree lawn.
- » Do not plant under or within 20 lateral feet of any overhead utility lines.
- » Do not plant within five feet of any underground utility pole or fire hydrant.
- » Do not plant within three feet of a parking area unless vehicle wheel stops are provided.
- » Trees should not be planted where traffic line-of-sight is compromised at intersections.

Minimum size

Trees planted in the public street tree lawn must be a minimum 1¾ inch diameter caliper (caliper is measured six inches above ground level).

Native tree species are indicated in **bold**.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Recommended Cultivars
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	
Basswood	<i>Tilia Americana</i>	'Boulevard', 'Redmond'
Blackgum/Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	needs grow space of 12 feet or more
Cucumber Magnolia	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	only where thorns are not problematic
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	susceptible to powdery mildew
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	male clones only
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	
Homestead Elm	<i>Ulmus x</i>	'Homestead'
Kentucky Coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	male clones only
Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	'Glenleven,' 'Greenspire'
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerfolia</i>	'Bloodgood'
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	'Moraine' - all have messy fruit
Thornless Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i>	'Imperial', 'Shademaster', 'Skyline', 'Sunburst'
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	
Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	'Green Vase'

TABLE 5 - Undesirable Species for Street Trees

These trees shall not be planted along public streets. Undesirable characteristics are listed. Evergreens are acceptable on public sites only where visibility is not a problem.

- » Fast-growing trees are weak-wooded trees and are susceptible to storm damage.
- » Do not plant an unknown seedling, which is very likely an undesirable species.
- » Avoid buying and planting cheap trees that have poor form or are partially dead.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Problems
American Elm	<i>Ulmus Americana</i>	disease prone
Amur maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	invasive seed
Arborvitae	<i>Thuja sp.</i>	visibility problems
Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	weak wood
Ash, White and Green	<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>	Emerald ash borer prone
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	cankers, borers, breakage prone
Black Walnut, Butternut	<i>Juglans sp.</i>	messy fruit, alleotrophy
Boxelder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	weak wood, poor form, invasive seed
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	messy fruit
Common Cherry, Black Cherry	<i>Prunus sp.</i>	messy fruit, insect problems
Common Crabapple	<i>Malus sp. (unimproved)</i>	messy fruit, disease prone
Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	weak wood, messy seed
Fir	<i>Abies sp.</i>	visibility obstruction
Flowering Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	invasive seed
Juniper	<i>Juniper sp.</i>	visibiity obstruction
Lombardy Poplar	<i>Populus sp. 'Lombardy'</i>	canker disease, weak wood
Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus sp.</i>	thrives poorly here
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	invasive seed
Osage Orange	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	messy fruit
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	messy fruit
Pine	<i>Punus sp.</i>	visibility obstruction
Red, Slippery Elm	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	disease problems
Russian Olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	disease prone
Siberian Elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	disease prone, weak wood, messy
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	weak wood, poor form
Spruce	<i>Picea sp.</i>	visibility obstruction
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	invasive seed, weak wood
Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	weak wood
White Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	messy fruit, somewhat invasive
White Paper Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	borer insects, short lived
Willow	<i>Salix sp.</i>	weak wood, invasive roots, messy

TABLE 6 - Trees Tolerant of Urban Conditions

The following tables give advice on trees that tolerate urban conditions and timetables for planting to get the best survival. Urban sites often have poor soils and are exposed to stresses like pollution and road salt. These trees have proven to be most tolerant of such conditions and are good choices for tough sites.

Species	Species	Species
Basswood	Golden Raintree	Littleleaf Linden
Black Maple	Hackberry	London Planetree
Bur Oak	Hawthorns	Eastern Redbud
Crabapple	Hedge Maple	Shingle Oak
Cucumber Magnolia	Honey Locust	
Ginkgo	Kentucky Coffeetree	

TABLE 7 - Trees Slow to Recover from Transplanting

Species	Species	Species
American Hornbeam	Hackberry	Cucumber Magnolia
Flowering Dogwood	Kentucky Coffeetree	Serviceberry
Ginkgo		

TABLE 8 - Planting Season by Species

Experience in tree planting has shown that certain trees have a higher survival rate when dug and balled and burlapped in the spring. The following two lists show the season that trees are normally dug at the nursery and out-planted. While containerized trees can be planted during most of the growing season, balled and burlapped trees should be planted when they are dormant (the leaves are off). This is usually Oct. 20 through May 1 in northern Indiana. Trees can be planted in winter as long as the ground is not frozen and the root ball is kept from freezing. Balled and burlapped trees can be planted while in leaf if extra care is taken to maintain constant root ball moisture and to protect the fragile leaves from drying out.

Spring Planting Only		
Bald Cypress	Flowering Pear	Kousa Dogwood
Black Gum/Tupelo	Golden Raintree	London Planetree
Cucumber Magnolia	Hackberry	Oaks, all (summer watering required)
Flowering Cherry	Hawthorns, all	Sweetgum
Flowering Dogwood		Zelkova

Spring or Fall Planting		
Basswood/Linden	Japanese Tree Lilac	Redbud
Crabapples	Kentucky Coffeetree	River Birch
Ginkgo	Littleleaf Linden	Serviceberry
Honey Locust		

Eco Logic LLC

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August 2 at 1:59 PM · 🌐

Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata*)

Unfortunately, the lessons learned from the disastrous introduction of callery pears to North America are not being heeded by those who specify our urban street trees. Japanese tree lilac (*Syringa reticulata*) has become the small flowering tree of choice for street trees despite the known invasive tendencies of many east Asian woody plants in the eastern deciduous forests of North America.

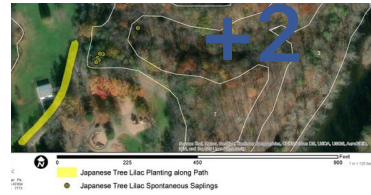
At Holliday Park in Indianapolis, a mature planting of over two dozen of these trees follows a paved path through the park. In the native woodlands on the other side of the path, an increasing number of their shade-tolerant saplings have been found during invasive plant mapping efforts by Eco Logic Senior Ecologist Kevin Tungesvick. Some of these saplings are up to 750 feet from the parent trees. The seeds have a papery wing surrounding the kernel that aids in wind dispersal. These invading saplings will be removed through our contract with Indy Land Stewardship, however it is easy to imagine this happening in urban woodlots across the Midwest where no stewardship activities occur.

Our woodlands are replete with native understory species with proven landscaping value including redbud, hornbeam, serviceberries, hawthorns, and native crabapples. Use of these native species will protect our woodlands from invasive species and support our indigenous wildlife.



2022 Holliday Park Japanese Tree Lilac Locations





👍🥰🤔 Kevin Tungesvick, Ellen Jacquart and 55 others

8 Comments 26 Shares

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Write a comment...



Jennie Orr

Unfortunately, these are the trees that the city planted on our street. We would love to have them removed before they start harming our local woodlands! **City of Bloomington, IN - Sustainable Bloomington**

Like Reply 5d



Jimmy Strathmann

I've been sounding the alarm on this species for at least 6 years. Almost no one listened to me. I suspect seeing it from you will help.

Like Reply 5d



Amanda Smith

They are all over Hamilton County! It's unbelievable and unacceptable that Urban Forestry and City Planners have not learned this lesson already. Urban forestry has a lot to answer for regarding invasive species in our communities.

Like Reply 4d



Jimmy Strathmann

Amanda Smith you're talking about planted ones, not naturalizing seedlings right?

Like Reply 4d



Amanda Smith

I'm talking about the mother plants that were planted (in many cases) with our tax dollars, yes! These trees get free advertising along our city streets to homeowners that rush to the box stores and plant them in their own yards, thus compounding the p... **See more**

Like Reply 4d



Reply to Amanda Smith...



JoAnne Cummings

There's a bunch planted along the cultural trail along Washington Street in front of the south government center building. I am not sure if they are on city grounds or state grounds.

Like Reply 5d



Jimmy Strathmann

JoAnne Cummings there's a bunch everywhere. They've really caught fire in popularity.

Like Reply 5d



JoAnne Cummings

Jimmy Strathmann true story. My neighbor has one, I just remembered.