

List of Recommended Trees for The City of Detroit

Note: This recommended tree list contains primarily urban tolerant trees for public and private property, including some native species. Use this list as a starting point, then research or seek professional advice on which trees can benefit your property. Contact your the Michigan State University Extension office or Natural Resource Conservation Service for additional recommendations.

Tips: if you have a very wet property, give some thought to trees that like having "wet feet" and can handle flooding, or other green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) practices. It's also important to plant a variety of trees to manage future pests outbreaks. For example, Asian longhorned beetle is expected to arrive in Michigan in the near future, and its favorite tree to attack are maples. Consider planting a different tree to save yourself time and money, and keep our urban forest healthy. Take time to plan and plant the right tree for the right place!

*Size Class refers to tree height. S: up to 15 feet , M: 15-40 feet, L: 40 feet or more

Common Name	Genus	Species	Urban tolerant	* Size Class	Native to SE MI	Flood Tolerance	Drought Tolerance	Aerosol Salt Tolerance	Soil Salt Tolerant	Clay soil	Dry soil	Wet soil
Recommended Trees for Biodiversity and Climate Adaptation												
Accolade Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>japonica</i>	x	M		Extended	High	High	High		x	
Alleghany Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i>	<i>laevis</i>		S	x		Low	Low	Low	x		
American Basswood	<i>Tilia</i>	<i>americana</i>		L	x		Moderate	Low	Low	x	x	
American Beech	<i>Fagus</i>	<i>grandifolia</i>		L	x		Moderate	Low	Poor			
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus</i>	<i>caroliniana</i>		M	x	Occasional	Moderate	Poor	Poor		x	
Autumn Brilliance serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i>	<i>grandiflora</i> x 'Autumn Brilliance'		S	hybrid		Moderate	Moderate	Low			
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium</i>	<i>distichum</i>	x	L	x	Extended	High	High	Moderate	x		x
Black Gum	<i>Nyssa</i>	<i>sylvatica</i>	x	L	x	Extended	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	x	x	x
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans</i>	<i>nigra</i>		L	x		Moderate	Moderate	Low	x		
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>macrocarpa</i>	x	L	x	Extended	High	High	High	x	x	x
Canada Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i>	<i>canadensis</i>		S	x	Occasional	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate			
Cornelian cherry dogwood	<i>Cornus</i>	<i>mas</i>		S			Low	Moderate	Low	x		
Crabapple	<i>Malus</i>	<i>spp.</i>	x	S			Moderate	Low	Low		x	
Dawn Redwood	<i>Metasequoia</i>	<i>glyptostroboides</i>		L		Extended	Moderate	Moderate	Low		x	x
Downy serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i>	<i>arborea</i>		S	x		Moderate	Moderate	Poor		x	x
Eastern Hophornbeam (aka Ironwood)	<i>Ostrya</i>	<i>virginiana</i>	x	M	x		High	Moderate	Poor		x	
European Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus</i>	<i>betulus</i>		M		Occasional	Moderate	Poor	Poor		x	
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus</i>	<i>florida</i>		S	x		Low	Low	Poor			
Frontier Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>americana</i>	x	M	hybrid	Occasional	High	High	High		x	x
Ginkgo (male)	<i>Ginkgo</i>	<i>biloba</i>	x	M		Occasional	High	Moderate	Poor	x	x	
Golden Raintree	<i>Koelreuteria</i>	<i>paniculata</i>	x	M		Extended	High	Moderate	High			
Hackberry	<i>Celtis</i>	<i>occidentalis</i>	x	L	x	Occasional	High	Moderate	Moderate	x	x	x
Ivory Silk Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa</i>	<i>reticulata</i>	x	S			High	High	Moderate		x	
Katsura Tree	<i>Cercidiphyllum</i>	<i>japonicum</i>		M			Low	Moderate	Moderate	x	x	x
Kentucky Coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus</i>	<i>dioicus</i>	x	L	x		High	High	Moderate		x	x
Little leaf linden 'Greenspire'	<i>Tilia</i>	<i>cordata</i> 'Greenspire'	x	L		Occasional	Moderate	Poor	Low	x		
London Plane tree	<i>Platanus</i>	<i>acerifolia</i>	x	L		Extended	High	Moderate	Moderate	x		x
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum</i>	<i>lentago</i>		S	x	Occasional	High				x	x
Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus</i>	<i>glabra</i>		L	x	Extended	Moderate	Moderate	Poor		x	x
Pagoda dogwood	<i>Cornus</i>	<i>alternifolia</i>		S	x		Poor	Low	Poor		x	
Paperbark maple	<i>Acer</i>	<i>griseum</i>	x	S			Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	x		
Patriot Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>wilsoniana</i>	x	M		Occasional	High	High	High	x		x

Pin Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>palustris</i>	x	L	x	Extended	High	High	Low	x		x
Princeton Elm	<i>Ulmus</i>	<i>americana</i>	x	L	hybrid	Occasional	Moderate	Moderate	High	x	x	x
Red Horsechestnut	<i>Aesculus</i>	<i>carnea</i>		L			Moderate	Moderate	Poor			
Red Maple 'Autumn blaze'	<i>Acer</i>	<i>rubrum</i>		L		Extended	Moderate	Low	Poor			x
Red Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>rubra</i>		L	x		High	Low	Moderate	x	x	
Redbud	<i>Cercis</i>	<i>canadensis</i>	x	S	x		Moderate	Low	Low	x		
River Birch	<i>Betula</i>	<i>nigra</i>	x	M	x	Extended	High	Moderate	Low	x		x
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras</i>	<i>albidum</i>		M	x		Moderate	Moderate	Poor		x	
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya</i>	<i>ovata</i>		L	x		Moderate	Moderate	Low			
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>imbricaria</i>		L	x	Extended	Moderate	Low	Low	x	x	x
Silver Linden	<i>Tilia</i>	<i>tomentosa</i>	x	L		Occasional	High	Poor	Low			
Spicebush	<i>Lindera</i>	<i>benzoin</i>		S	x	Occasional	Low	Poor				x
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>bicolor</i>	x	L	x	Extended	High	Moderate	Moderate	x	x	x
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar</i>	<i>styraciflua</i>		L		Extended	Moderate	Moderate	Low	x		x
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer</i>	<i>saccharum</i>		L	x		Low	Low	Poor			
Tulip tree	<i>Liriodenron</i>	<i>tulipifera</i>		L	x		Low	Low	Low			
Inermis Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i>	<i>crus-galli</i>	x	M	x	Occasional	High	High	Moderate	x	x	
White Oak	<i>Quercus</i>	<i>alba</i>		L	x	Occasional	High	Low	Low		x	
White Pine	<i>Pinus</i>	<i>strobus</i>		L	x		Low	Low	Low			
Winterking Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i>	<i>viridis</i>	x	S		Occasional	High	Low	Poor	x	x	
Witchhazel	<i>Hammamalis</i>	<i>virginiana</i>		S	x	Occasional	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	x		x
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis</i>	<i>kentukea</i>		M		Occasional	Moderate	Low	Low	x	x	x
Zelkova	<i>Zelkova</i>	<i>serrata</i>	x	L		Occasional	Moderate	Moderate	Low	x	x	