

Water-Wise Gardens Plant Guide – Trees & Shrubs

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size (height)	Exposure	Bloom Time	Features
Siberian Pea-Tree	<i>Caragana arborescens</i>	Small tree or shrub	Sun to shade	Spring	Very hardy
American Chestnut	<i>Castanea dentata</i>	Up to 35 m (115 ft)	Sun	May to June	Dry, well-drained soil
Hawthorns	<i>Genus Crataegus</i>	Up to 12 m (40 ft)	Sun	May to June	Hardy tree
Junipers	<i>Genus Juniperus</i>	Shrub to small tree	Sun	Not significant	Dry sites, intolerant of shade
Pine	<i>Genus Pinus</i>	Shrubs to large trees	Sun	Not significant	Intolerant of shade
Oaks	<i>Genus Quercus</i>	Up to 25 m (82 ft)	Sun	Not significant	Intolerant of competition
Yews	<i>Gus Taxus</i>	Shrubs to small trees	Sun	Early spring	Can be easily shaped by pruning
Sumacs	<i>Genus Rhus</i>	2 m to 5 m (6 ft to 16 ft)	Sun to partial shade	Spring flowers	Thrives in poor soil
Common Hop Tree	<i>Ptelea trifoliata L.</i>	Up to 8 m (26 ft)	Sun	May to June	Only flowers in full sun; drought tolerant
Common Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	2 m to 5 m (6 ft to 16 ft)	Sun to partial shade	May	Drought tolerant
Shadbush, Juneberry, Saskatoon	<i>Amelanchier species</i>	Up to 4 m (13 ft)	Sun to partial shade	May	Hardy shrub
Smoketree	<i>Cotinus coggygia</i>	Shrub to small tree	Sun to partial shade	From early spring	Hairy fruit
Silverberry	<i>Elaeagnus commutata</i>	Small shrub	Sun to partial shade	Not significant	Small, hard fruits
Spindle Tree	<i>Euonymus species</i>	Shrub to small tree	Sun	June	Bears fruit
Forsythia	<i>Forsythia species</i>	Up to 3 m (10 ft)	Sun	April to May	Yellow fruit
Dyer's Greenwood, Spanish Gorse	<i>Genista species</i>	Up to 1 m (3 ft)	Full sun	Flowers early spring and then sporadically	Drought tolerant
Rose of Sharon	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	2 m to 3.5 m (6 ft to 12 ft)	Full sun to partial shade	August to September	Drought tolerant
Beauty Bush	<i>Kolkwitzia amabilis</i>	2 m to 3 m (6 ft to 10 ft)	Full sun	May to June	Well-drained soil

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Mock Orange	<i>Philadelphus species</i>	2 m to 3 m (6 ft to 10 ft)	Full sun to partial shade	May to June	Sweet-smelling flowers in spring
Rose species	<i>Rosa Rugosa; Multiflora Rose</i>	Up to 2 m (6 ft)	Full sun	All season	Very hardy
Spiraea	<i>Spiraea species</i>	1 m to 2 m (3 ft to 6 ft)	Full sun	May to June	Attractive fall foliage

Native Trees

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size (height)	Exposure	Bloom Time	Features
Northern White Cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	12 m to 21 m (40 ft to 70 ft)	Sun to part shade	not significant	Good privacy screen produces cones
Eastern White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Up to 30 m (100 ft)	Sun to part shade	not significant	Likes well drained soils, produces cones
White Birch(paper)	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	15 m to 20 m (50 ft to 70ft)	Sun to part shade	not significant	Beautiful white bark
Spruce	<i>Picea species</i>	12m to 30 m (40 ft to 100 ft)	Sun to part shade	not significant	Good shade tree(Norway spruce not native)
Balsalm Fir	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	12 m to 18 m (40 ft to 60ft)	Sun to part shade	not significant	Animal food source in winter
Oak	<i>Quercus species</i>	15 m to 27 m (50 ft to 90ft)	Sun	not significant	Produces acorn nuts
Maple	<i>Acer species</i>	30 m (up to 100 ft)	Sun or part shade	spring	Produces keys(seeds)

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Native Shrubs

Common Name	Botanical Name	Size (height)	Exposure	Bloom Time	Features
Saskatoon Berry	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Up to 3.5 m (11 ft)	Sun to part shade	June	White flowers in June. Purple berries in August. Host to butterflies
New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus Americans</i>	30 cm to 100 cm (1 ft to 3 ft)	Sun to part shade	June to July	White flowers, host to butterflies
Highbush Cranberry	<i>Virburnum trilobum</i>	Up to 4.5 m (15 ft)	Sun	Mid May to June	Red fruits provide great winter colour
Red Osier Dogwood	<i>cornus stolonifera</i>	1m to 3 m (3 ft to 10 ft)	Sun to part shade	Mid May to late June	White flowers and berries, beautiful red branches in winter
American Elderberry	<i>Sambucus Canadensis</i>	2.4m to 3.6m (8 ft to 12 ft)	Full sun	White flowers in June	Purple berries for birds in late summer
Purple Flowering Raspberry	<i>Rubus odoratus</i>	Up to 2 m (6 ft)	Shade to part sun	July to August	Purple flowers