Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Tree Nursery
2020 Seedling Catalog

The Tree Nursery at Saratoga

Since 1911, our goal has been to provide the people of New York State with low-cost seedlings to meet their tree planting project needs. Trees from the nursery are grown to be able to withstand the demanding climate conditions of our region. We provide you with the heartiest stock available for successful planting projects. The Saratoga Tree Nursery staff are available to assist you with finding the right plants for your needs, so please call us with any questions! We can be reached at 518-581-1439, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Trees for conservation

There are endless benefits to planting trees and shrubs—from improved wildlife habitat to better air and water quality. Whether next to a stream or in your backyard, planting trees will help to improve your local community. Start planning your conservation planting today by reviewing our 2020 offerings in this catalog and giving us a call.

How we get our seeds

New York seed sources are used when available. When New York seed sources are not available, seeds are collected from compatible sources. The nursery can purchase seeds from private individuals; contact the nursery if you would like to be added to our seed collection list.

To Order

Place orders from January 2, 2020–May 15, 2020

Most species sell out quickly, so order early.

Shipments are sent mid-April through mid-May. Seedlings should be planted as soon as possible. Until planted, keep seedlings cool and out of direct sunlight. Don’t let roots dry out.

By Phone*:
Call 518-587-1120, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
*Preferred order method

By Mail:
Mailed-in requests are filled after January 2, in the order they were received. Complete the order form on our website at: https://on.ny.gov/2LrSJrg
Send to:
NYS DEC Tree Nursery
2369 Route 50
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-4771

Do not send payment at this time. DEC will send customers an invoice to sign and return within 10 days along with a check or money order to complete the purchase unless other arrangements have been made. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Shipping Options and Instructions

Please make shipping arrangements when you place your order. Orders placed after May 1 must be picked up at the nursery. There are three options:

1. In-Person: Pick up your order at the Saratoga Tree Nursery, 2369 Route 50, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. The nursery will notify you by mail when your order is ready.

2. Pick-Up Location (Preferred): For a fee, seedlings are shipped by designated truckers to a single location within certain counties (not available in every county). Customers pick up their orders at designated locations on specified dates. Orders shipped this way are given preference over option #3. Orders must be placed by March 31, 2020 for this option.

3. UPS delivery: Fee per order: $5.00 plus 20% of the total bill or $20.00, whichever is higher.

State Tree Nursery Staff
David Lee, Supervising Forester
Tom Williams, Forester
Brian Phillips, Principal Forest Technician
Erika Nichols, Office Assistant
Successful Tree Planting Tips

Before You Plant Seedlings

Seedlings will arrive as bare-root, meaning the plants do not have any soil around the roots. Seedlings must be planted within one day of arrival, since they are susceptible to drying, or placed directly into cold storage.

If you are planting in a few days:
• Keep the plants in their delivery bag and place them in a refrigerator cooled to 38–48°F. If not available, keep in a cool area (garage, basement), out of direct sun. Do not stack bags.
• The day before planting day, pull the plants out of the refrigerator and gently untangle the roots.
• Soak the plant roots for 1–2 hours by placing seedlings in a 5-gallon bucket of water to ensure roots won’t dry out.

Bareroots are fragile and require cool temperatures and wet conditions. Too much heat can cause mold to grow on seedlings and roots, killing them, so be sure to keep seedlings cool and moist to prevent mold growth.

Plan Your Project

The key to a successful conservation planting is to take some time to plan your project. First, determine the goal for the planting (e.g., promoting pollinators or streambank stabilization). Different plants serve different purposes and can chosen to suit your planting goals.

Once you have selected your species, look at how large the tree or shrub is expected to grow. You want to ensure you have planned enough space between plants so they have enough room to grow and survive. Plants grown too closely together can be prone to disease and other issues in the future.

For plant spacing, we recommend these general guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Spacing (feet)</th>
<th>Trees/Acre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conifers</td>
<td>8 x 8</td>
<td>680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardwoods</td>
<td>12 x 12</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrubs</td>
<td>6 x 6</td>
<td>1,210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maintain Your Seedlings

• Water plants weekly during dry conditions for one year after planting to ensure successful establishment.
• Install tree tubes, tree fencing and weed mats to help protect your plants from predators such as white-tailed deer and voles. Five-foot tree tubes or fencing is recommended. Tree tubes should only be used on hardwood trees and shrubs.
• Check tree protection materials regularly to make sure tree tubes are upright, weed mats are secured to the ground, and deer fencing does not need repair.

For a full list of maintenance activities, please see the Maintenance Guide at: http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/77710.html

Mixed Species Packets

Our mixed species packets are created to help you meet your planting goals. Suggested planting plans for each of these packets is available on our website to help guide your planting at home: http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/75799.html

Pollinator Packet* #1 $60
Species chosen for this packet are meant to support native pollinators, including bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Pollinators are important for healthy landscapes, gardens, and agricultural crops. Contains 30 each of the following (90 plants): Virginia rose, highbush cranberry, silky dogwood.

Wildlife Habitat Packet* #2 $30
This packet is designed to improve wildlife habitat in a small area. Species will attract birds and mammals, providing both food and shelter for species throughout the year. For the wildlife enthusiast! Contains 10 each of the following (30 plants): gray dogwood, silky dogwood, Northern white cedar.

Long Island Packet* #3A $30
This packet contains species seed-sourced from and ideal for planting on Long Island, ensuring hearty stock for this unique area. Contains 10 each of the following (30 plants): bayberry, beach plum, Eastern red cedar

Riparian Packet* #4 $60
Species in this packet are ideal for planting along streams. This packet can help stabilize banks and provide water quality improvements with fast-growing tree species. For the angler and wildlife lover! Contains 20 each of the following (100 plants): silver maple, wetland rose, red oak, white spruce, pussy willow.

Ruffed Grouse Packet* #6 $60
This packet contains species that ruffed grouse find nutritious, providing both cover and food. For the wildlife watcher and the upland game bird enthusiast! Contains 10 each of the following (60 plants): red stemmed dogwood, silky dogwood, black cherry, pussy willow, white spruce, birch.

*The nursery reserves the right to make species substitutions when necessary.
**Birch, River**

**Latin name:** Betula nigra  
**Height:** 40 to 70 feet  
**Width:** 5 to 10 feet  
**Growth rate:** Fast  
**Site requirements:** Sun to partial shade; moist, acidic soil; heat tolerant.  
**Physical description:** Deciduous tree. Pyramidal to rounded form, often with multiple trunks. Leaves triangular to diamond-shaped, margins double-toothed.  
**Wildlife value:** Seeds, buds, and catkins eaten by many birds and small mammals. Foliage browsed by deer.  
**Uses:** Adaptable to clay soils and wetter areas, great for streamside plantings.

**Cherry, Black**

**Latin name:** Prunus serotina  
**Height:** 40 to 80 feet  
**Width:** 20 to 40 feet  
**Growth rate:** Fast to medium  
**Site requirements:** Full sun; deep, moist, well-drained soil.  
**Physical description:** Deciduous tree. Dense pyramidal form when young, developing more drooping branches with age. Fall color often in shades of reds and oranges. Small white flowers in narrow, hanging clusters followed by small, reddish-black, sweet berries.  
**Wildlife value:** Stems browsed by deer and rabbits. Fruit eaten by many birds and mammals. Attracts pollinating insects.  
**Uses:** Heartwood is beautiful reddish-brown color, hard and strong. Used for furniture, veneer, and dimensional lumber.

**Maple, Red**

**Latin name:** Acer rubrum  
**Height:** 40 to 60 feet  
**Width:** 30 to 40 feet  
**Growth rate:** Medium fast  
**Site requirements:** Sun; grows best in moist, well-drained soil. Tolerates a wide range of site conditions, particularly wet conditions.  
**Physical description:** Deciduous tree. Fall color mostly shades of red, also bright yellow, rarely shades of orange. Early spring flowers are red, as are the ripening seeds. Smooth, pale gray bark on young trees, becoming gray-brown and rough on older trees.  
**Wildlife value:** Good nest site for many birds. Seed, buds, and twigs eaten by mammals. Attracts pollinating insects.  
**Uses:** Excellent riparian tree, but tough and adaptable for many urban uses. Used for lumber and pulpwood.

**Dogwood, Flowering**

**Latin name:** Cornus florida  
**Height:** 25 feet  
**Width:** 25 feet  
**Growth rate:** Medium  
**Site requirements:** Full sun and partial shade; grows best in moist conditions. Will grow on wide range of sites.  
**Physical description:** A small deciduous tree that blooms April–May, with distinctive white bracts (modified leaves) that give the appearance of large, white flowers. Provides great fall color, with leaves turning red-purple.  
**Wildlife value:** The seed, fruit, flowers, twigs, bark, and leaves are all used as food by various animals. Nearly 40 species of birds eat the fruit.  
**Uses:** Great ornamental tree, known for its flower that attracts a wide array of pollinators.
**Maple, Silver**

- **Latin name:** *Acer saccharinum*
- **Height:** 50 to 75 feet
- **Width:** 40 to 60 feet
- **Growth rate:** Fast
- **Site requirements:** Sun; moist, well-drained soil; can withstand periodic flooding. Tolerates a wide range of site conditions.
- **Physical description:** Deciduous tree. Typically develops short, massive trunk with long, heavy main branches. Distinctive in winter because of clumps of round flower buds on ends of branches. Bark smooth, light-gray on young trees, becoming shaggy and furrowed on older trees.
- **Wildlife value:** Browse for deer, seeds and buds eaten by many mammals. Attracts pollinating insects.
- **Uses:** Riparian restoration. Fast-growing shade tree for large urban spaces, brownfield sites, and floodplains.

**Maple, Sugar**

- **Latin name:** *Acer saccharum*
- **Height:** 40 to 80 feet
- **Width:** 30 to 60 feet
- **Growth rate:** Fast
- **Site requirements:** Full to partial sun; moist, well-drained soil, prefers slightly acidic soils.
- **Physical description:** Deciduous tree. Dense, rounded crown with notable trunk. Bark smooth, light-gray on young trees, becoming shaggy and furrowed on older trees.
- **Wildlife value:** Deer browse, seeds and buds eaten by mammals. Attracts pollinating insects.
- **Uses:** Maple syrup production. Fast-growing shade tree for large urban spaces, brownfield sites, and floodplains.

**Oak, Bear**

- **Latin name:** *Quercus ilicifolia*
- **Height:** 6 to 20 feet
- **Width:** 6 to 10 feet
- **Growth rate:** Medium to slow
- **Site requirements:** Full sun; well-drained soil. Grows in pine barrens and on dry, rocky slopes. Very drought tolerant.
- **Physical description:** Small tree or multi-stemmed shrub. The leaves are densely arranged on thin angular branches, often with numerous small acorns. Fall color usually vivid orange or dark red.
- **Wildlife value:** Excellent food and cover for many wildlife species. Acorns especially valuable food source for turkeys and grouse. An important food for many insect species.
- **Uses:** Many potential uses in drought-resistant landscaping.

**Oak, Bur**

- **Latin name:** *Quercus macrocarpa*
- **Height:** 70 to 90 feet
- **Width:** 40 to 60 feet
- **Growth rate:** Fast
- **Site requirements:** Sun; moist, well-drained soil; can withstand periodic flooding. Tolerates a wide range of site conditions.
- **Physical description:** Deciduous tree with large trunk and spreading crown. Known for its oval-shaped acorns with large, bur-like caps. Bark becomes rough and furrowed with age.
- **Wildlife value:** Attracts songbirds and mammals.
- **Uses:** Lumber used for furniture and flooring.
**Oak, Chestnut**

*Latin name:* Quercus montana  

*Height:* 60 to 70 feet  

*Width:* 40 to 50 feet  

*Growth rate:* Medium to slow  

*Site requirements:* Sun to partial shade; moist to dry, well-drained soil. Very drought tolerant. Can grow on extremely poor, dry, rocky sites.  

*Physical description:* Deciduous tree with straight trunk and dense crown. Fall color often bright yellow, but also can be many shades of orange to red. When the foliage of other trees turns dry and wilted, chestnut oak leaves still look fresh and glossy.  

*Wildlife value:* Sweet acorns are prized by wildlife.  

*Uses:* Lumber similar to that of white oak. Bark formerly used for tanning leather.

---

**Oak, White**

*Latin name:* Quercus alba  

*Height:* 50 to 80 feet  

*Width:* 40 to 50 feet  

*Growth rate:* Slow to medium  

*Site requirements:* Sun; well-drained soil. Quite drought tolerant, will grow on dry, rocky sites.  

*Physical description:* Deciduous tree. Open-grown trees, such as trees growing in fields, tend to develop short, massive trunks and wide, irregular crowns, often very picturesque. Fall color is wine-red to pinkish-brown. Bark is gray-brown, flaky on younger trees, becoming blocky on old trees.  

*Wildlife value:* Acorns valuable food for turkeys, deer, squirrels, and birds.  

*Uses:* Used for beams, railroad ties, flooring, and furniture.

---

**Poplar, Hybrid**

*Latin name:* Populus deltoides x Populus sp. (Eastern cottonwood crosses with other poplar species)  

*Height:* 40 to 80 feet  

*Width:* 30 to 50 feet  

*Growth rate:* Fast  

*Site requirements:* Sun; moist, well-drained soil. Hybridized with a riparian species that grows in floodplains.  

*Physical description:* Deciduous tree. Upright, somewhat spreading habit. Leaves large, rounded triangle-shaped like cottonwood’s, 2 to 5 inches long. Bark variable, usually light gray-brown.  

*Wildlife value:* Shoots and leaves provide browse for deer and rabbits. Cover and nest sites for birds. Soft wood on old trees is easily excavated by woodpeckers for nest cavities.  

*Uses:* Used for pulpwood, biofuel, and windbreaks.
### Hardwood Species

**Walnut, Black**
- **Latin name:** Juglans nigra
- **Height:** 40 to 80 feet
- **Width:** 30 to 60 feet
- **Growth rate:** Medium-fast
- **Site requirements:** Sun; deep, moist, well-drained soil
- **Physical description:** Deciduous tree. Often has rather short trunk and open, spreading branches. Compound leaves, 12 to 24 inches long with 10 to 24 narrow leaflets. Unripe nuts have green husks and are round, 1½ inch spheres.
- **Wildlife value:** Rich, oily nutmeats are high-calorie food for squirrels and birds.
- **Uses:** Primary use is lumber from the valuable, dark-brown heartwood.

### Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees

**Arrowwood**
- **Latin name:** Viburnum dentatum
- **Height:** 6 to 10 feet
- **Width:** 4 to 8 feet
- **Growth rate:** Medium to fast
- **Site requirements:** Sun to light shade; well-drained to wet soil. Observed growing on open sites ranging from dry hillside to cattail wetlands.
- **Physical description:** Deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub. Arrowwood foliage is quite distinctive with its markedly opposite leaves; clear, fresh green color; and rather crisp texture. Fall color is varied, ranging from purples, reds, and pinks to shades of orange, peach, and yellow. Flowers small, creamy white, in flat clusters, nicely held above the leaves.
- **Wildlife value:** Outstanding shrub for wildlife, especially as winter food for birds.
- **Uses:** Very versatile shrub for riparian areas, wildlife planting, and wetland restoration.

**Bayberry, Northern**
- **Latin name:** Morella pensylvanica
- **Height:** 5 to 10 feet
- **Width:** 5 to 10 feet
- **Growth Rate:** Medium
- **Site Requirements:** Sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil. Tolerant of a wide range of soil types, grows well on even the poorest sandy soils. Extremely salt tolerant.
- **Physical Description:** Multi-stemmed shrub with dense foliage, rounded form. Leaves glossy, fragrant, 2 to 4 inches long, narrow oval-shaped with teeth near the tip.
- **Wildlife Value:** The berries are held well into winter and are eaten by many bird species.
- **Uses:** Bayberry makes a fine urban or roadside shrub because of its high salt tolerance.
Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees
Minimum height 5’; 25 for $20, 100 for $45, unless noted

Buttonbush
Latin name: Cephalanthus occidentalis
ONLY AVAILABLE IN QUANTITIES OF 25

Height: 5 to 10 feet
Width: 4 to 8 feet
Growth rate: Medium
Site requirements: Sun; moist to wet soil. Often found in cattail marshes and pond shoreline.

Physical description: Deciduous shrub. Often multi-stemmed but may have single trunk. Habit ranges from rounded, dense shrub to open, irregular habit in the wild. Wonderful snowball-like spheres of tiny, white, fragrant flowers. Decorative, round, green seed heads on long stems turn brown when ripe.

Wildlife value: Nectar plant for butterflies, hummingbirds, and other pollinators. Seeds eaten by many birds.

Uses: Great for riparian restoration, rain gardens, wildlife habitat, and butterfly gardens.

Cedar, Eastern Red
Latin name: Juniperus virginiana
ONLY AVAILABLE IN QUANTITIES OF 25

Height: 10 to 40 feet
Width: 6 to 20 feet
Growth rate: Slow
Site requirements: Full sun; well-drained, deep soil. Does well on limestone soils as well as more acidic soils.


Wildlife value: Berries are important food for many birds. Dense foliage provides good cover for many species.

Uses: Reclamation planting on dry sites. Very rot-resistant, uses limited due to small size.

Cedar, Northern White (Arborvitae)
Latin name: Thuja occidentalis
ONLY AVAILABLE IN QUANTITIES OF 25

Height: 20 to 60 feet
Width: 10 to 30 feet
Growth rate: Medium to slow
Site requirements: Sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil. Does well on limestone.

Physical description: Evergreen tree. Frequently grown in hedges and may appear multi-stemmed because of very low-branched trunk. Foliage shiny, dark green, flattened sprays of twigs with tiny, smooth, scale-like needles.

Wildlife value: Excellent cover for many species because of dense foliage. Widely used as winter deer browse.

Uses: Hedges, screens, windbreaks, lumber. Wood is very light, rot-resistant, and strong.

Cherry, Dwarf Sand “Catskill”
Latin name: Prunus pumila var. depressa
ONLY AVAILABLE IN QUANTITIES OF 25

Height: 1 to 2 feet
Width: 3 to 10 feet
Growth rate: Medium
Site requirements: Sun; moist, well-drained soil. Grows well on unstable shifting substrates such as gravel bars or inland coastal sand dunes.

Physical description: Deciduous trailing shrub. Leaves gray-green, long and fairly narrow, with rounded tips. White, 5-petaled flowers on lower half of shoots, followed by dark red fruit. Bark on trailing branches typically cherry dark brown.

Wildlife value: Fruit is eaten by many animals and birds. Attracts pollinating insects.

Uses: Used for riparian planting and soil stabilization, it also makes an excellent dense ground cover.
Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees

Minimum height 5"; 25 for $20, 100 for $45, unless noted

Cranberry, Highbush

Latin name: Viburnum spp.
Height: 8 to 12 feet
Width: 8 to 12 feet
Growth rate: Medium
Site requirements: Sun; moist, well-drained soil
Physical description: Deciduous shrub. Fall color shades of red. White flowers in flat-topped clusters, followed by bright red berries.
Wildlife value: Berries a top favorite of many birds. Attracts pollinating insects.
Uses: Hedges, windbreaks, riparian planting, wildlife habitat.

Dogwood, Gray

Latin name: Cornus racemosa
Height: 4 to 10 feet
Width: 4 to 10 feet
Growth rate: Fast
Site requirements: Sun to light shade; well-drained to moist soils. Quite drought tolerant.
Physical description: Deciduous spreading shrub. Thin, red-brown to gray twigs. Clusters of small, white flowers followed by white berries on bright red-pink stems. Bark light-gray, smooth in younger plants, becoming rougher with age.
Wildlife value: Berries attract birds, flowers attract pollinating insects.
Uses: Soil stabilization, windbreaks, fence rows.

Dogwood, Red stemmed (seed)/red osier(cutting)

Latin name: Cornus sericea
Height: 6 to 9 feet
Width: 6 to 9 feet
Growth rate: Fast
Site requirements: Sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained to seasonally wet soils. Will grow in wetlands.
Physical description: Deciduous, multi-stemmed spreading shrub. Bright red twigs on younger branches. Clusters of small, white flowers followed by white berries. Bark smooth and red, becoming gray and slightly furrowed on older stems.
Wildlife value: Flowers draw butterflies and other pollinators, berries eaten by many birds, stems and leaves browsed by deer and small mammals.
Uses: Soil stabilization, wildlife planting, hedges, windbreaks, basketry.

Dogwood, Silky

Latin name: Cornus amomum ssp. amomum, also known as swamp dogwood
Height: 6 to 10 feet
Width: 6 to 10 feet
Growth rate: Fast
Site requirements: Sun to partial shade; well-drained to wet soils. Needs some moisture, is not highly drought tolerant.
Physical description: Deciduous, multi-stemmed spreading shrub with dense foliage and rounded form. New stems reddish-purple with fine silky hairs. Clusters of small white flowers in spring, followed by blue berries which ripen to shades of black.
Wildlife value: Flowers attract butterflies and other pollinating insects. Fruit eaten by many birds.
Uses: Riparian restoration, streambank stabilization, windbreaks.
**Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees**

Minimum height 5”; 25 for $20, 100 for $45, unless noted

### Nannyberry

**Latin name:** Viburnum lentago  
**Height:** 8 to 15 feet  
**Width:** 4 to 10 feet  
**Growth rate:** Medium  
**Site requirements:** Sun; moist, well-drained soil. Will tolerate wide range of soil types, including limestone soils.  
**Physical description:** Deciduous shrub, usually multi-stemmed. Small white flowers in flat umbels, berries which turn dark blue then black. Bark is dark grey, looks nearly black.  
**Wildlife value:** A favorite of many birds. Attracts pollinating insects.  
**Uses:** Wildlife, hedges and windbreaks, riparian habitat restoration.

### Plum, Beach

**Latin name:** Prunus maritima  
**Height:** 4 to 10 feet  
**Width:** 4 to 10 feet  
**Growth rate:** Fast  
**Site requirements:** Sun, well drained soil. Predominantly a coastal species, prefers well drained sandy soils. Highly salt tolerant.  
**Physical description:** Usually multi-stemmed but may grow as single-stemmed small tree. White flowers with 5 petals. Bark on young stems shiny reddish-brown, becoming rough and dark-brown on older stems.  
**Wildlife value:** A top wildlife food. Attracts pollinating insects.  
**Uses:** Coastal planting, wildlife areas, dune stabilization.

### Rose, Virginia

**Latin name:** Rosa virginiana  
**Height:** 4 to 6 feet  
**Width:** 2 to 6 feet  
**Growth rate:** Fast  
**Site requirements:** Sun; moist, well-drained soil. Does well in sandy soils, tolerant of salt spray.  
**Physical description:** Deciduous spreading shrub. Flowers large, pink, single, about 1½ to 2 inches across. Blooms in late spring–early summer. Smooth red hips.  
**Wildlife value:** Hips excellent food for many birds, attracts pollinating insects.  
**Uses:** Soil and dune stabilization, roadside and beach planting, wildlife cover and food.

### Rose, Rugosa

**Latin name:** Rosa rugosa  
**Height:** 3 to 6 feet  
**Width:** 2 to 6 feet  
**Growth rate:** Fast  
**Site requirements:** Sun; moist, well-drained soil. Does well in sandy soils, tolerant of salt spray.  
**Physical description:** This shrub is considered invasive in some habitats and should be planted with caution. Fragrant flowers of pink or white. Prickly stems of green to brown, depending on age.  
**Uses:** Soil stabilization
Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees
Minimum height 5"; 25 for $20, 100 for $45, unless noted

Rose, Wetland (swamp rose)

*Latin name:* Rosa palustris  
*Height:* 4 to 7 feet  
*Width:* 2 to 4 feet  
*Growth rate:* Medium  
*Site requirements:* Sun; wet to well-drained soils  


**Wildlife value:** Hips excellent food for many birds. Attracts pollinating insects.  

**Uses:** Riparian planting, wetlands, hedges.

Sumac, Winged

*Latin name:* Rhus copallinum  
*Height:* 4 to 20 feet  
*Width:* 5 to 15 feet  
*Growth rate:* Fast  
*Site requirements:* Sun to partial shade; moist to dry soil. Tolerates drought, salt spray  

**Physical description:** Small deciduous tree, often spreading into multi-stemmed shrub. Leaves 12 to 18 inches long, alternate, and compound, with 7 to 15 narrow leaflets. The main leaf stem has distinctive wing. Fall color is spectacular, enhanced by the varnished look of the leaves. Fruit held well into winter.  

**Wildlife value:** Seeds reliable fall and winter food for many birds. Host for over 50 moth and butterfly species. Of special value to native bees who use twigs for nest material.  

**Uses:** Good species for restoration planting on poor dry soil.

Wild Grape

*Latin name:* Vitis riparia  
*Height:* 40 to 70 feet  
*Width:* Variable  
*Growth rate:* Fast  
*Site requirements:* Moist, well-drained soil. Fairly drought tolerant, probably the most cold-hardy woody vine.  

**Physical description:** Deciduous woody vine. Young shoots light-green, climbing with large forked tendrils, which coil strongly around supports. Fruit tight clumps of dark blue to black grapes.  

**Note:** Do not allow any vines to climb up trees. Encourage them to climb trellises, fences, buildings, and other supports where they can provide shade and other benefits while getting the light that they want.  

**Wildlife value:** Seeds reliable fall and winter food for many bird and animal species, the bark is used by birds for nest material, and the vines are preferred nest sites for species such as cardinals.  

**Uses:** Although wild grape has a reputation for being aggressive, regular pruning makes it a beautiful asset for shading a house or covering a fence.

Winterberry

*Latin name:* Ilex verticillata  
*Height:* 5 feet to 15 feet  
*Width:* 3 feet to 12 feet  
*Growth rate:* Medium  
*Site requirements:* Full sun to partial shade; grows well in wet or acidic soil  

**Physical description:** Medium-sized shrub with grey to black bark, dense branches growing upward in a zigzagging pattern. Produces small white flowers and scarlet red berry-like fruit that remain on the plant until midwinter.  

**Wildlife value:** The fruit of the winterberry is eaten by small mammals and birds. Rabbits, moose, and deer browse on the bark of this plant.  

**Uses:** Hedges, rain gardens.
## Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees

### Minimum height 5”; 25 for $20, 100 for $45, unless noted

#### Witch Hazel

**Latin name:** Hamamelis virginiana

**Height:** 15 to 20 feet

**Width:** 15 to 20 feet

**Growth rate:** Medium

**Site requirements:** Sun to shade; moist, well-drained soil. In the wild, often grows as an understory species and tolerates considerable shade.

**Physical description:** Deciduous shrub. Leaves 3 to 5 inches long, oval to almost round. Bright yellow leaves in early fall are followed by tiny, highly fragrant yellow flowers.

**Wildlife value:** The seeds and buds are a favorite winter food for grouse.

**Uses:** Excellent woodlot understory plant.

#### Willow, Prairie

**Latin name:** Salix humilis var. humilis

**Height:** 2 to 8 feet

**Width:** 4 to 8 feet

**Growth rate:** Medium to slow.

**Site requirements:** Sun to light shade; well-drained to moist soil. Upland species that grows in drier habitats than most willows. Does well on sandy soil.

**Physical description:** Deciduous shrub. Can form dense thickets, but not an aggressive spreader. Leaves alternate, 2 to 4 inches long and ½ to ¾ inch wide. Leaf shape is typically oblong with a rounded tip. Blooms very early in spring before leaves emerge.

**Wildlife value:** Special value for native bees because it provides early spring food resources when few other plants are in bloom.

**Uses:** Wildlife habitat, restoration planting, soil stabilization.

#### Willow, Pussy

**Latin name:** Salix discolor

**Height:** 6 to 15 feet

**Width:** 4 to 10 feet

**Growth rate:** Fast

**Site requirements:** Sun; moist, well-drained soil. Will grow in wetlands.

**Physical description:** Deciduous shrub. Can be grown as multi-stemmed shrub or as small single-trunked tree. Variable form, foliage usually smaller. Flower buds are gray and silky, later open into male or female catkins.

**Wildlife value:** Willow buds, leaves, twigs, and bark provide wildlife with food year-round.

**Uses:** Streambank stabilization, rain gardens, riparian protection.

#### Willow, Sandbar

**Latin Name:** Salix interior

**Height:** 3 to 10 feet

**Width:** 3 to 10 feet

**Growth rate:** Fast

**Site requirements:** Full sun; wet to moist soil, tolerates intermittent standing water.


**Wildlife value:** Good cover for birds and animals, browse for deer, buds eaten by grouse. Attracts pollinating insects.

**Uses:** Streambank stabilization, bioengineering, green infrastructure, living fences.
Wildlife Habitat Shrubs/Small Trees

Minimum height 5"; 25 for $20, 100 for $45, unless noted

**Willow, Streamco**

*Latin name: Salix purpurea “Streamco”*

*Height:* 10 to 15 feet  
*Width:* 10 to 15 feet  
*Growth rate:* Fast  
*Site requirements:* Sun; moist, well-drained soil.

*Physical description:* Deciduous shrub. Young stems purplish to reddish-brown. Narrow leaves, bluish-green with silvery white undersides.

*Wildlife Value:* Willow buds, leaves, twigs, and bark attract pollinating insects.

*Uses:* Streambank stabilization, rain gardens, riparian protection.

---

**Conifer Species**

Minimum height 6"; 25 for $20, 100 for $45. Some offered in units of 250, as noted

**Fir, Balsam**

*Latin name: Abies balsamea*

*Height:* 40 to 70 feet  
*Width:* 20 to 30 feet  
*Growth rate:* Slow  
*Site requirements:* Sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil. Prefers cool conditions.


*Wildlife value:* Wildlife cover, foliage and buds eaten by deer, seeds eaten by birds and squirrels.

*Uses:* Essential oils, pulpwood, and lumber.

---

**Fir, Concolor**

*Latin name: Abies concolor*

*Height:* 30 feet to 50 feet  
*Width:* 20 feet  
*Growth rate:* Slow/Medium  
*Site requirements:* Prefers full sun to partial shade. Has some drought tolerance.

*Physical description:* Flat needles that are bluish or silvery-green and roughly 1½ to 3 inches in length. They extend from all sides of the twig and curve upward. Cones start out olive green, turning purplish and then brown at maturity.

*Wildlife value:* Grouse like to eat the buds and needles and prefer it as a roosting tree.

*Uses:* Windbreaks, ornamental.

---

[Steven Katesven, Bugwood.org]  
[Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org]
Conifer Species

Minimum height 6”; 25 for $20, 100 for $45. Some offered in units of 250, as noted

Fir, Douglas

| Latin name: | Pseudotsuga menziesii |
| Height:     | 40 to 80 feet |
| Width:      | 20 to 40 feet |
| Growth rate:| Medium |
| Site requirements: | Sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil. |

Physical description: Evergreen conifer tree. Dense foliage when young, becoming tall, open, and conical with age. Foliage often grayish-green to blue-green, cones oval and light brown.

Wildlife value: Cover and nest sites. Seeds eaten by birds and rodents.

Uses: Christmas trees, lumber, pulpwood.

Larch, European

| Latin name: | Larix decidua |
| Height:     | 60 to 80 feet |
| Width:      | 25 to 30 feet |
| Growth rate:| Fast to medium |
| Site requirements: | Sun; moist, well-drained soil. |

Physical description: Deciduous conifer tree. Conical open habit with soft green foliage. Turns yellow in fall, then drops needles. Bark thin and grayish-brown, becoming rough and furrowed with age.

Wildlife value: Seeds eaten by birds and rodents. Provides cover and nest sites for birds.

Uses: Lumber, pulpwood. Strong, heavy, rot-resistant wood used for construction.

Pine, Austrian

| Latin name: | Pinus nigra |
| Height:     | 50 to 80 feet |
| Width:      | 20 to 40 feet |
| Growth rate:| Medium |
| Site requirements: | Sun; well-drained soil. |

Physical description: Evergreen conifer tree. Dense pyramidal shape when young, becoming more open and flat-topped with age. Shiny, dark-green, stiff needles, cones stiff, 2 to 3 inches long. Bark dark gray-brown, becoming deeply furrowed with age.

Wildlife value: Cover and nest sites. Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals.

Uses: Christmas trees, windbreaks, pulpwood.

Larch, Japanese

| Latin name: | Larix kaempferi |
| Height:     | 70 to 90 feet |
| Width:      | 25 to 40 feet |
| Growth rate:| Fast |
| Site requirements: | Sun; moist well drained soil. |

Physical description: Deciduous conifer tree. Conical open habit with soft, blue-green foliage. Turns yellow in fall, then drops needles. Bark thin and grayish-brown, becoming rough and furrowed with age.

Wildlife value: Seeds eaten by birds and rodents. Provides cover and nest sites for birds.

Uses: Lumber, pulpwood. Strong, heavy, rot-resistant wood used for construction.
Conifer Species
Minimum height 6”; 25 for $20, 100 for $45. Some offered in units of 250, as noted

**Pine, Pitch**

*Latin name:* Pinus rigida  
*Height:* 40 to 60 feet  
*Width:* 20 to 30 feet  
*Growth rate:* Medium to slow  
*Site requirements:* Full sun; well-drained soil. Does well on dry, rocky sites and in sterile sandy soils. Grows well in coastal areas and sand dunes.  
*Physical description:* Evergreen tree. Form rounded and conical when young, becoming open with age. Foliage yellowish-green, needles in bundles of three, 2 to 5 inches long. Cones reddish-brown with distinct spine on each cone scale. Needles may sprout directly from bark, a unique trait that is part of pitch pine’s fire adaptation.  
*Wildlife value:* Cover and nest sites. Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals. Bark eaten by porcupines.  
*Uses:* Coastal planting, restoration of inland pine barrens.

**Available in units of 250**

**Pine, Red**

*Latin name:* Pinus resinosa  
*Height:* 50 to 80 feet  
*Width:* 30 to 40 feet  
*Growth rate:* Medium  
*Site requirements:* Sun; well-drained soil. Does well on sterile sandy soils.  
*Physical description:* Evergreen tree. Form rounded and conical with dense foliage when young, becoming more open with age. Needles dark-green, in bundles of two. Cone reddish-brown, 2 to 3 inches long, attached directly to branches, persistent.  
*Wildlife value:* Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals. Bark eaten by porcupines.  
*Uses:* Coastal planting, restoration of inland pine barrens.

**Pine, Scotch**

*Latin name:* Pinus sylvestris  
*Height:* 30 to 60 feet  
*Width:* 20 to 40 feet  
*Growth rate:* Medium  
*Site requirements:* Sun; well-drained soil.  
*Physical description:* Evergreen tree. Foliage bluish-green, needles in bundles of two, 1½ inches to 3 inches long, thick and twisted. Bark reddish-brown, scaly when young, becoming gray and furrowed with age.  
*Wildlife value:* Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals. Bark eaten by porcupines.  
*Uses:* Christmas trees, windbreaks, pulpwood.

**Available in units of 250**

**Pine, White**

*Latin name:* Pinus strobus  
*Height:* 60 to 100 feet  
*Width:* 30 to 50 feet  
*Growth rate:* Medium to fast  
*Site requirements:* Sun, well-drained soil.  
*Physical description:* Evergreen tree. Rounded conical shape with dense foliage when young, becoming more open with age. Foliage blueish-green, soft looking. Needles in bundles of five, very thin, 3 to 5 inches long. Cones narrow and flexible with thick-tipped scales. Bark dark gray-brown, smooth when young, becoming rough and furrowed with age.  
*Wildlife value:* Cover and nest sites, especially for larger birds.  
*Uses:* Lumber, pulpwood, windbreak. Used for furniture, paneling, and boat planking.

**Available in units of 250**

Ansel Oommen, Bugwood.org
Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org
Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org
Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org
Conifer Species

Minimum height 6”; 25 for $20, 100 for $45. Some offered in units of 250, as noted

Spruce, Norway

Latin name: Picea abies

Height: 60 to 100 feet
Width: 30 to 50 feet
Growth rate: Fast to medium

Site requirements: Sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil. Tolerates very wide range of soil types.

Physical description: Evergreen conifer. Conical shape, older trees have long, upswept branches. Dark-green needles, ¾ inch to 1 inch long, four-sided with sharp tip. Cone red-brown, very large, 6 inches to 8 inches long, with thin, stiff scales.

Wildlife value: Cover and nest sites. Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals.

Uses: Lumber, windbreaks, pulpwood. Soft, light wood is good for musical instruments.

Spruce, Red

Latin name: Picea rubens

Height: 59 to 131 feet
Width: 2 feet (trunk diameter)
Growth rate: Slow to medium

Site requirements: Shade tolerant, can grow in a range of elevations. Prefers moist but well-drained sandy loam.

Physical description: Evergreen conifer tree. Full pyramidal shape when young, growing to tall, narrow, conical form. Foliage yellow-green. Has sharp-tipped, four-sided needles that extend from all sides of the twig. Cones brown with wavy scales.

Wildlife value: Cover and nest sites. Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals.

Uses: Wood for instruments, pulpwood.

Spruce, White

Latin name: Picea glauca

Height: 40 to 60 feet
Width: 15 to 20 feet
Growth rate: Medium

Site requirements: Sun, well-drained soil. Hardy to zone 2. Does not like shade.

Physical description: Evergreen conifer tree. Full pyramidal shape when young, growing to tall, narrow, conical form. Foliage dull blue-green, pointing upward. Cones brown, with wavy scales.

Wildlife value: Cover and nest sites. Seeds eaten by many birds and small mammals.

Uses: Christmas trees, lumber, windbreaks, pulpwood.
For technical advice on your planting project, contact your regional forestry office, or call the Tree Nursery at Saratoga, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Your New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Regional Forestry Offices

Region 1 – Nassau and Suffolk Counties
631-444-0285

Region 2 – Bronx, Brooklyn, New York, Queens, and Richmond Counties
718-482-4942

Region 3 – Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester Counties
845-256-3000

Region 4 – Albany, Columbia, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Delaware, Greene, Montgomery, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties
518-357-2155

Region 5 – Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington Counties
518-897-1276

Region 6 – Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and St. Lawrence Counties
315-785-2263

Region 7 – Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego, Tioga and Tompkins Counties
607-753-3095

Region 8 – Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates Counties
585-226-9519

Region 9 – Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, and Wyoming Counties
716-851-7000

Albany Central Office
518-402-9405

State Tree Nursery at Saratoga
518-581-1439

www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7127.html