

# CITY OF MEDFORD

## SELECTED STREET TREE LIST UPDATED DECEMBER 2024



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This list has been developed as a guide to help you select the right trees for planting in Medford's right-of-way based on characteristics making them suitable for growing in our local urban environment.

These characteristics include:

- Non-invasive root systems
- Minimal leaf litter
- Non-fruiting
- Upright form
- Heat tolerance
- Drought tolerance
- Urban soil tolerance

When planted in the right place, these trees will be an asset to you and to our community for many years to come. Refer to the detailed site requirements for each species to help with your decision. Remember to consider the planting strip width, overhead conflicts and underground utilities. Contact the City of Medford Parks and Recreation Department with questions at 541-774-2652.

**NOTE:** If your home was built as part of a Planned Unit Development (PUD), a Street Tree Master Plan will have been adopted outlining approved right-of-way street trees. Requirements for specific street tree species may have been recorded in your Home Owner's Association's Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&R). Contact your Home Owner's Association, Realtor or Developer for more information regarding any possible restrictions of your street tree options.

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**MEDFORD**  
PARKS, RECREATION AND FACILITIES



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### NOT APPROVED AS STREET TREES

These trees have characteristics that make them unsuitable for the urban environment, such as the following:

**Invasive root systems | Excessive seed or fruit issues | Invasive species status | Poisonous parts  
Unsuitable growth form for right-of-way | Weak branch attachment | Insect or disease issues**

- *Acer macrophyllum*: Bigleaf maple
- *Acer negundo*: Box elder
- *Aesculus* spp.: Horsechestnut
- *Ailanthus altissima*: Tree of Heaven
- *Alnus* spp.: Alder
- *Catalpa speciosa*: Catalpa
- *Cornus mas*: Cornelian dogwood
- *Crataegus* spp.: Hawthorne
- *Fraxinus velutina*: Modesto ash
- *Fraxinus oxycarpa*: Raywood Ash
- *Laburnum x watereri*: Goldenchain tree
- *Morus* spp.: Mulberry
- *Juglans* spp.: Walnut
- *Populus* spp.: Poplar, Aspen, Cottonwood
- *Salix* spp.: Willows
- *Ulmus pumila*: Siberian elm
- Weeping varieties: (*Birch, willow, cedar, cherry, etc.*)
- Fruiting Trees: (*Plum, pear, female ginkgo, etc.*)

### NOTES ON WATERING:

All newly planted trees need water to establish. Along with a deep watering at the time of planting, trees should be watered two or three times per week with 25-30 gallons of water for the first three years. After that time, gradually reduce supplemental water on trees with moderate or low water requirements.

Effective watering wets the soil several feet down,

promoting deep root growth. Use a watering bag or a slow horse trick for several to allow water to percolate into the root zone. Water is essential at the edge of the root ball where new roots are growing. It is preferable to do a deep watering rather than a shallow daily soak. **Contact the Medford Parks and Recreation Tree Program, you local arborist or landscape professional with any questions.**

### TREES FOR BENEATH POWER LINES:

Species	Common Name	Varieties	Height	Width
<i>Carpinus japonica</i>	<b>Japanese hornbeam</b>		20'	25'
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	<b>Eastern redbud</b>		30'	35'
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	<b>Fringetree</b>		18'	20'
<i>Cornus kousa</i>	<b>Korean dogwood</b>		30'	30'
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	<b>Crapemyrtle</b>	Tuscarora, Natchez	20'	12'
<i>Maackia amurensis</i>	<b>Amur maackia</b>		30'	20'
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	<b>Persian Ironwood/parrotia</b>		30'	20'
<i>Prunus serrula</i>	<b>Red bark cherry</b>		30'	25'
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	<b>Japanese tree lilac</b>	Ivory Silk, Summer Snow	30'	25'
<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	<b>Chinese fringe tree</b>		18'	20'
<i>Magnolia</i> spp.	<b>Flowering magnolia</b>	Stellata, Merrill, Galaxy, Royal Star, Saucer, Yulan, Kobus, Alexandriana, Elizabeth	30'	20'
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	<b>Japanese Zelkova</b>	City Sprite, Wireless	24'	36'



### SMALL TREES

Narrow planting strips | Less than 30' at maturity | Powerline compatible

Latin Name	Common Name	Height	Spread	Native	Flower	Fall Color	Comments
Cercis canadensis	<b>Eastern redbud</b>	30'	35'	N	Y	N	Magenta flowers in April before leafing out, susceptible to Verticillium. This species only lives about 20 years.
Chlonanthus virginicus	<b>Fringetree</b>	18'	20'	N	Y	N	Urban tolerant, transplant carefully, fragrant clusters of flowers, may produce small fruit which attracts birds
Cornus kousa	<b>Korean dogwood</b>	30'	30'	Y	Y	Y	'Starlight' is a Pacific Northwest native hybrid variety. Also known as Chinese dogwood. Must have ample irrigation in hot weather, Anthracnose resistant, long lasting flowers, prune for upright street tree form.
Lagerstroemia indica	<b>Crape myrtle</b>	20'	12'	N	Y	Y	Good tree for dry areas, very showy flowers, choose cultivars that are mildew and aphid resistant, be sure to plant in late spring or early summer.
Parrotia persica	<b>Persian ironwood/ parrotia</b>	30'	20'	N	Y	Y	Upright tree, can be multi stemmed so may need pruning as street tree, early blooming with small flowers and excellent fall color. Hardy and pest resistant but needs good drainage.
Prunus serrula	<b>Red bark cherry</b>	30'	25'	N	Y	N	Small flowers that may be hidden by foliage. Need good drainage and consistent water.
Syringa reticulata	<b>Japanese tree lilac</b>	30'	25'	N	Y	N	Fragrant blooms on new growth in late spring. Needs pruning for street tree shape.
Carpinus japonica	<b>Japanese hornbeam</b>	20'	25'	N	N	N	Small hard tree, good for urban conditions, easy to transplant, select trees with higher branches to allow enough height for sidewalk and street.
Chionanthus retusus	<b>Chinese fringe tree</b>	18'	20'	N	Y	N	Fragrant flowers, urban tolerant, select and prune to allow enough height for sidewalk and street.
Maackia amurensis	<b>Amur maackia</b>	30'	20'	N	Y	N	Flowers in late summer, inedible legume/seeds.
RECOMMENDED WITH RESERVATIONS							
Magnolia spp.	<b>Flowering magnolia</b>	30'	20'	N	Y	N	May be messy when flowers drop. Beautiful large flowers before spring leaf-out. 'Edith Bogue' and 'Victoria' are evergreen varieties. Tolerant of a variety of soils. Prune for street tree shape.



### MEDIUM-SIZED TREES

6' to 7' wide (medium) planting strips | Up to 60' tall at maturity

Latin Name	Common Name	Height	Spread	Native	Flower	Fall Color	Comments
Carpinus betulus	<b>European hornbeam</b>	40'	35'	N	N	N	Needs consistent water and bark protection for establishment
Castanopsis chysolphylla	<b>Golden chinkapin</b>	40'	25'	Y	N	N	Siskiyou mountains native, related to chestnut, needs pruning to develop form, may product nuts in late summer, like well drained soils.
Celtis laevigata	<b>Sugar hackberry</b>	50'	40'	N	N	N	Exceptionally tough tree, late to leaf-out, resistant to Verticillium and Armillaria.
Celtis occidentalis	<b>Hackberry</b>	60'	60'	N	N	N	Exceptionally tough tree, late to leaf-out, resistant to Verticillium and Armillaria.
Cercidiphyllum pagonicum	<b>Katsura</b>	50'	30'	N	N	Y	Needs irrigation and trunk protection from the sun. Select single stemmed trees, choose, 'Red Fox' for a smaller variety.
Cladrastis lutea	<b>Yellow-wood</b>	40'	45'	N	Y	Y	Compound leaves, white, wisteria-like flowers in spring, legume, adapted to poor soil, protect the trunk from sun until well-established, prune in summer for street and sidewalk clearance.
Davidia involucrata	<b>Dove tree</b>	50'	40'	N	Y	Y	Exceptionally showy, white flowers in spring, needs irrigation, well drained soils, best in shady to partly sunny sights, may not do well with climatic extremes.
Halesia monticola	<b>Mountain silverbell</b>	35'	25'	N	Y	Y	White flowers, contrasting twig colors, needs trunk protection from sun.
Maclura pomifera 'White Shield'	<b>Fruitless Osage orange</b>	35'	30'	N	N	Y	Thornless, fruitless variety, buy male trees only, hardy, disease and pest free. Native to the Great Plains.
Nyssa sylvatica	<b>Tupelo</b>	45'	30'	N	N	Y	Also known as blackgum or sourgum, scarlet fall color makes it a good alternative to maples, resists leaf spot, adaptable in urban conditions and poor soils but needs attention to establish.
Prunus x yedoensis	<b>Hybrid flowering cherry</b>	40'	30'	N	Y	N	Flowers light pink to nearly white, most disease free cherry in Pacific Northwest, needs good drainage, and consistent water. Do not plant where it is exposed to direct afternoon sun.
Sassafras albidum	<b>Sassafras</b>	45'	35'	N	Y	Y	Red fall color, small fragrant flowers in spring, small blue fruit in September that attracts bits. Needs well-drained soils and prune to develop single leader.
Tilia americana	<b>American linden</b>	45'	30'	N	Y	Y	Carefully choose variety for size and shape, yellow fall color and good substitute for ash.
Tilia cordata	<b>Littleleaf linden</b>	55'	40'	N	Y	Y	Fragrant yellow flowers in June, tolerant of urban conditions, prune to establish single leader, may be susceptible to aphids.
Ulmus propinqua	<b>Emerald Sunshine elm</b>	35'	25'	N	N	Y	Tolerant of heat, drought and resistant to Dutch Elm Disease, and fast growing.



### MEDIUM-SIZED TREES (CONTINUED)

6' to 7' wide (medium) planting strips | Up to 60' tall at maturity

Latin Name	Common Name	Height	Spread	Native	Flower	Fall Color	Comments
Ulmus propinqua	<b>Emerald Sunshine elm</b>	35'	25'	N	N	Y	Tolerant of heat, drought and resistant to Dutch Elm Disease, and fast growing.
Koelreuteria paniculata	<b>Golden raintree</b>	35'	35'	N	Y	Y	Yellow flowers in summer with brown, papery "lanterns" as seeds. Tolerant of urban conditions but susceptible to Verticillium.
Carpinus caroliniana	<b>American hornbeam</b>	35'	25'	N	N	Y	Tough tree if not surrounded by hardscape and given consistent water during establishment. Yellow fall color and slow growing.
Pistacia chinensis	<b>Chinese pistache</b>	45'	35'	N	Y	Y	Showy red flowers in the spring, small blue fruit, susceptible to Verticillium but resists Armillaria, bright red fall color.
Pyrus calleryana	<b>Callery pear</b>	40'	30'	N	Y	Y	A Rogue Valley favorite! Select variety for shape, disease resistance and flowers. Early white flowers and red fall color. Good cultivars include 'Aristocrat', 'Redspire', 'Cleveland Select', 'Jack' (small). There are columnar varieties available.





### LARGE SHADE TREES

Need minimum of 8' wide (large) planting strips | 40' to 80' tall at maturity  
Not suitable for limited growing space | Not suitable for under power lines

Latin Name	Common Name	Height	Spread	Native	Flower	Fall Color	Comments
Corylus Columna	<b>Turkish filbert</b>	50'	30'	N	N	Y	Adaptable to variety of soils and pH. Does best in full sun. Drought tolerant.
Eucommia ulmoides	<b>Hardy rubber tree</b>	50'	45'	N	N	N	Hardy, adaptable to urban conditions, and disease free. Drought tolerant.
Fagus sylvatica	<b>European beech</b>	50'	50'	N	N	Y	Interesting foliage and fall color. Select varieties with Beech Bark Disease resistance.
Fagus grandifolia	<b>American beech</b>	50'	40'	N	N	Y	Stately tree with good branch structure and fall color. Select varieties resistant to Beech Bark Disease.
Ginkgo biloba	<b>Ginkgo, maidenhair tree</b>	60'	50'	N	N	Y	Brilliant yellow fall color, slow growing, very urban tolerant. Male clones only--female trees have foul smelling fruit. Somewhat drought tolerant. Root barrier suggested.
Gieditsia tricanthos	<b>Thornless honeylocust</b>	40'	40'	N	N	Y	Yellow new growth in spring, strong branching but needs pruning for deadwood and clearance. "Streetkeeper" is a narrower variety. Root barrier suggested.
Gymnocladus dioicus	<b>Kentucky coffeetree</b>	50'	35'	N	Y	N	Compound leaves, small white midseason flowers, member of legume family, urban tolerant and good for poor soils
Magnolia grandiflora	<b>Southern magnolia</b>	80'	50'	N	Y	N	Large white flowers in spring, can be surface rooting, Victoria cultivar is a small tree to 20'. Not drought tolerant
Nothofagus spp.	<b>Antarctic beech</b>	50'	38'	N	Y	N	Develops an oak-like structure over time. Does not tolerate heavy clay soils, native to Chile, also known as Roble beech.
Phellodendron amurense	<b>Amur corktree</b>	45'	45'	N	Y	N	Fast growing, hardy, seedless tree with pest resistance and drought tolerant
Quercus frainetto	<b>Italian oak</b>	50'	30'	N	N	N	Upright, vigorous oak, tolerant of drought and urban conditions, sometimes known as Forest Green oak
Quercus frainetto	<b>Shumardii</b>	50'	40'	N	N	Y	Thrives in moist, acid bottomland soils with poor drainage. Good for heavy clay soil found in Medford
Tilia tomentosa	<b>Silver linden</b>	60'	40'	N	Y	Y	Drought and heat resistant, better than other lindens.
Ulmus americana	<b>American elm</b>	60'	50'	N	N	Y	Classic street tree. Choose varieties resistant to Dutch Elm Disease and Phloem Necrosis. Yellow fall color. Also known as Hybrid elm.
Ulmus parvifolia	<b>Chinese elm</b>	60'	55'	N	N	Y	Also known as Lacebark elm, resistant to Dutch Elm Disease and Armillaria. Protect bark from sun when young. May attract woodpeckers.
Zelkova serrata	<b>Japanese zelkova</b>	60'	45'	N	N	N	Related to elms but resistant to Dutch Elm Disease. Grows moderately fast. Needs consistent water to establish.



### LARGE SHADE TREES (CONTINUED)

Need minimum of 8' wide (large) planting strips | 40' to 80' tall at maturity  
Not suitable for limited growing space | Not suitable for under power lines

Latin Name	Common Name	Height	Spread	Native	Flower	Fall Color	Comments
Quercus bicolor	<b>Swamp white oak</b>	80'	80'	N	N	N	May produce 1" acorns sporadically when mature, needs good drainage, susceptible to Armillaria, mistletoe
Quercus coccinea	<b>Scarlet oak</b>	75'	50'	N	N	Y	Needs good drainage, susceptible to Armillaria, mistletoe.
Quercus imbricaria	<b>Shingle oak</b>	50'	40'	N	N	N	Upright tree and grows slowly.
Quercus garryana	<b>Oregon white oak</b>	70'	60'	Y	N	N	Pacific Northwest native, also known as Garry oak, needs good drainage, adapted to summer drought, susceptible to Armillaria, mistletoe.
Quercus kelloggii	<b>California black oak</b>	80'	80'	Y	N	N	Difficult to transplant, needs good drainage, susceptible to Armillaria, mistletoe.
Quercus macrocarpa	<b>Bur oak</b>	90'	90'	N	N	N	Difficult to transplant but once established tolerant of many stressful conditions. Susceptible to Armillaria, mistletoe.
Quercus muehlenbergii	<b>Chinkapin oak</b>	45'	45'	N	N	N	Durable and adaptable tree. Also known as Chestnut oak.
Quercus phellos	<b>Willow oak</b>	75'	60'	N	N	Y	Delicate, narrow leaves unlike a "typical" oak. Fast growing, susceptible to Armillaria, mistletoe.
Quercus suber	<b>Cork oak</b>	70'	70'	N	N	N	Evergreen oak, fast grower in southern Oregon. Drought tolerant once established.
Quercus robur	<b>English oak</b>	70'	60'	N	N	N	Large rounded tree with sturdy structure, adaptable to different soil and climate conditions. Hybrids available for narrow growing spaces.
Umbellularia californica	<b>Oregon myrtle</b>	60'	45'	Y	N	N	Evergreen leaves with spicy fragrance, tolerant of urban conditions and seasonal flooding, good resistance to pests and disease. Needs frequent watering to establish.
Platanus x acerifolia	<b>Sycamore</b>	55'	40'	N	N	N	Also known as London Planetree. Very urban tolerant and adaptable to poor and heavy soils, but needs large parkway to grow. Select varieties resistant to Anthracnose. Root barrier suggested.
Quercus lobata	<b>California valley oak</b>	70'	70'	N	N	N	Also known as California white oak, fast growing, good alternative to cottonwoods. Needs good drainage.