

# 2017 Tree Sale Species Information List



## **American Arborvitae** (*Thuja occidentalis*)

Though a native of Indiana, the arborvitae is now found in the wild in only a few counties in the northwestern part of the state. However, it is “domesticated” everywhere! Their medium size – they can reach 40 -60 ft., but usually stop around 30 ft., - and conical shape make them a versatile addition to the landscape. Being evergreen, they make beautiful wind-breaks or privacy screens.



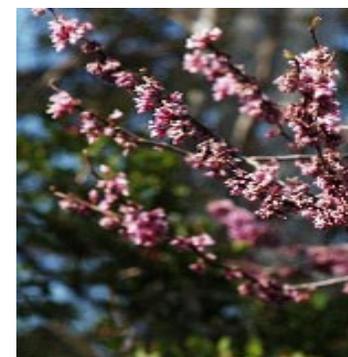
## **American Plum** (*Prunus americana*)

To say this tree is a Hoosier native is only part of its story. The American plum is one of the most widespread of the understory trees in all of North America. Small at 15-25 ft, its impact is huge. The American plum is one of the most important trees for attracting and supporting native wildlife in our landscaping. Its delicate form and spring flowers make this an attractive tree for people, too.



## **Chinkapin Oak** (*Quercus muehlenbergi*)

A member of the white oak family, the chinkapin oak is sometimes called the yellow oak, yellow chestnut oak, and (by the early pioneers) pigeon oak. Also making this tree tricky to study is the multiple accepted spellings of its name. Regardless, it is a long lived and desirable shade tree. It is a large tree which can reach up to 100 feet, but typically matures in the 75 feet range. It has gray bark that has a slight yellowish cast to it (hence its common name) and yellow fall foliage. Like all the oaks, it is a great wildlife draw, attracting not only animals that like the acorns but birds as well. This is a great four season tree for your yard.



## **Eastern Redbud** (*Cercis canadensis*)

The Eastern Redbud is a small to medium tree with heart-shaped leaves. It is named for the many small pea-shaped flowers that cover the tree in the spring. It has a tendency to grow in clusters in the understory and presents one of the most beautiful springtime displays along the roadsides. As a landscape tree, it can be planted in a grouping or as a specimen tree. When planted as a single tree in full sun, the canopy often becomes full and broad. Because the redbud rarely grows over 30 ft., it is a beautiful tree for spaces where a larger tree is inappropriate.



## **Eastern White Pine** (*Pinus strobus*)

This native Hoosier can claim Elkhart County in its original growing range. Now it is widely planted in yards by homeowners and along fields by farmers. It is fast growing and reaches 100 ft. Like all the pines, its needles are long. The white pine is tolerant of many diverse growing conditions, thriving in moist to dry soils and partial shade to full sun. This tolerant tree makes a great privacy screen, especially when combined with the American Arborvitae.



### **Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*)**

It has been said that no landscaping is complete without a viburnum. So here is our selection. The nannyberry is a small tree that produces small white flowers in broad clusters. The small blue-black fruit are edible but, again, you'll have to beat the wildlife to them! They are attractive to many songbirds and gamebirds. Widely adaptable, it particularly likes moist soils.



### **Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*)**

Norway spruce is a familiar sight in much of the United States, but it's really a tree of Europe. Throughout the globe, this tree has many uses including lumber, pulpwood, Christmas trees and landscape specimen trees. Its dense branching pattern and tolerance of soil variations has also made it a popular tree for wind-breaks. If you have enough space and want to add a sense of formal dignity to your landscape, the Norway spruce will suit you well.



### **Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)**

The native red maple is another one of those great four seasons tree. Its small red flowers are a real harbinger of spring and its silvery gray bark presents a nice contrast to the spring flowering bulbs. Its spreading canopy makes this tree a perennial shade favorite and its fall colors are striking. As well, its gray bark and classic shape make it a winter standout. Like all the maples, the red maple is a heavy drinker so plant this one where you can give it weekly watering during dry periods.



### **Redtwig Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)**

Redtwig Dogwood is a native shrub for all seasons. With a dense multi-stemmed structure as a base, oval green leaves cover its smooth green stems in the spring. Creamy white flower clusters in summer attract butterflies followed by creamy white berries that attract birds. In autumn, the stems and foliage turn red with the stem color lasting through the winter giving the plant its name. There are few things in the winter landscape as cheery as seeing this plant poking up through the snow!



### **River Birch (*Betula nigra*)**

River birch is the most common birch in Indiana and, despite its name, seems to be able to grow in many soil types. I personally know of one growing on top of what can only be described as a gravel hill capped with clay! It is not susceptible to the bronze birch borer that has wrecked havoc with the white-barked birches. The stand-out feature of this medium sized tree is its curling reddish bark that begins peeling by its 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year.



### **Shagbark Hickory** (*Carya ovata*)

If you can only identify one tree by its bark, this might be it! On mature trees the gray bark breaks into thin plates that are free from the trunk at one end giving the tree its name-sake look. Another large shade producing tree, don't overlook the fact that the nuts are an edible crop (and not just by the squirrels). Its unusual bark is reason enough to plant this tree in your yard but the nuts are an added bonus.



### **Speckled Alder** (*Alnus incana*)

Do you have a problem spot on your property? A spot that doesn't drain as well as you'd like or collects rainwater? The speckled alder could be just what you're looking for. This small tree (30 ft) is happiest in moist soils though it will grow in well-drained soils as well. It's reddish-brown bark has grayish dots giving this tree its common name. The speckled alder produces small fruiting "cones" that are attractive to winter feeding birds.



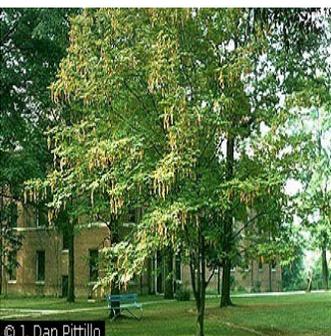
### **Thornless Honeylocust** (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)

All the beauty of our native honeylocust, without the tire piercing thorns. The thornless honeylocust is a medium to large tree that is somewhat unique with its doubly compound leaves. This leaf structure gives this tree an open, airy canopy. It also produces an interesting fruit pod that hangs from the branches. Fall foliage tends to be yellow with the leaves generally falling all at once, making for easy autumn clean-up. The gray-brown bark develops large plate-like patches giving this tree some great winter interest as well.



### **Tulip Poplar** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in Indiana learns that the tulip tree is our state tree. What generally isn't known is that the tulip poplar is not a true poplar but is, in fact, a member of the magnolia family. It also is one of the tallest and most beautiful trees in the eastern hardwood forest. This is a large tree, capable of reaching heights well in excess of 100'. It usually has a straight trunk and a rounded to spreading crown. The tulip tree blooms in May, producing many tulip-shaped flowers which can be difficult to see since it blooms after the tree leafs out. In the autumn, the leaves (which also have a tulip silhouette) turn a bright yellow. Younger trees have a thin gray trunk that can add some nice winter interest to the landscape.



### **Yellowwood** (*Cladrastis kentukea*)

This southern Hoosier is quite adaptable and happy to live in our northern section of the state. It's cascading white wisteria-like blossoms are truly a spectacular spring sight. But you must be patient as it doesn't bloom until it has a bit of maturity. The yellowwood's bark is a smooth gray similar to a beach and the tree produces pea-like pods similar to the redbud tree. At a mature height of 60 ft, the yellowwood is an excellent shade tree in the residential yard.

\*\*\*If you would like to see a color copy of this flyer, go to [www.elkcoswcd.org](http://www.elkcoswcd.org)



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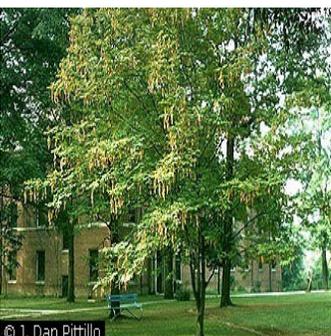
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