



## Shade Trees

*Properly selected and planted shade trees add both economic and aesthetic value to your property. Trees may reduce home energy costs and increase property value. Large trees may be an asset or a liability depending upon the species of tree and site selection. Here are some species that make excellent shade trees.*

*Acer rubrum* (Red Maple)

Height: 40-60' Width: 30-40' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast  
Features: Excellent red fall color; tolerates wet conditions

*Acer saccharum* (Sugar Maple)

Height: 60-75' Width: 40-50' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast  
Features: Excellent fall color that can be red, orange, or yellow

*Betula nigra* (River Birch)

Height: 40-70' Width: 40-60' Growth Rate: Fast  
Features: Showy exfoliating bark; tolerates wet conditions; can be multi- or single-stemmed

*Cercidiphyllum japonicum* (Katsura Tree)

Height: 40-60' Width: 40-60' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast  
Features: Pest and disease resistant; yellow fall color; fallen leaves smell like cotton candy

*Fagus* spp. (Beech)

Height: 40-70' Width: 35-60' Growth Rate: Slow  
Features: Various forms available; a large stately tree

*Gleditsia triacanthos* v. *inermis* (Honeylocust)

Height: 30-70' Width: 30-70' Growth Rate: Fast  
Features: Casts dappled shade; bright green foliage, yellow fall color

*Platanus x acerifolia* (London Planetree)

Height: 70-100' Width: 65-80' Growth Rate: Fast  
Features: Beautiful bark on mature specimens; resists anthracnose; tolerates wet conditions

*Quercus rubra* (Northern Red Oak)

Height: 60-75' Width: 60-75' Growth Rate: Moderate-Fast  
Features: Red fall color; acorns are excellent source of food for wildlife

*Ulmus parviflora* (Lacebark Elm)

Height: 40-70' Width: 30-60' Growth Rate: Moderate  
Features: Mature specimens have showy bark; vase shaped canopy; pest and disease resistant

*Zelkova serrata* (Zelkova)

Height: 50-80' Width: 50-80' Growth Rate: Fast  
Features: Resistant to Dutch Elm Disease; orange-yellow fall color

### **Growth Rates**

(Growth rates are subjective)

Slow: 1' or less annually

Moderate: 1-3' annually

Fast: 2-4' or more annually