

The Parke Recommended Tree Plantings for Front Yard Landscapes
Design Review Committee

March, 2019

Trees are invaluable; they shade & cool our homes, conserve energy, reduce soil erosion, clean our air, beautify our community, bring in songbirds and mark the changing seasons. With all these attributes, importantly, trees flourish best when planted in the appropriate site.

To support The Parke's Design Guidelines regarding front yard tree replacement, at planting the following minimum standards must be met: the tree must be at least 4 feet in height, have a caliper of at least 1 inch and have a root ball size of at least 5 gallons. The following trees are recommended to consider for planting in our moderate sized front yards. This list is not intended to be all inclusive but rather a jump start for continued research and exploration on genus and species. Inclusion in the list was based on a mature tree height range from 12' – 35', a moderate spread range, appropriateness for our soil, temperature, and 7b growing zone, and whether or not it is native to MD. As in all selections, not all species are created equal, so review and research of the particular tree is needed.

Suggested Flowering Trees

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| American Wild Plum | <i>Prunus americana</i> , Spring blooming, full sun/part shade, dry/moist soil, 20' - 35' (H) x 20' - 35' spread |
| American Witch Hazel | <i>Hamamelis virginiana L</i> , Fall blooming when tree reaches age 6, shade/part shade, 20'- 30'(H) x 15' - 20' spread, (typically not over 12' - 15'(H) |
| Cherry | Pin Cherry or Fire Cherry <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i> , Spring blooming, full sun/part shade, 20' - 35' (H) x 20' - 35' spread; Cornelian Cherry <i>Cornusmos 'Golden Glory'</i> , tolerates light shade 20' (H), - Japanese Beetle defoliation may become a problem; Purple leaf Sand Cherry <i>Prunus x cistena</i> , 7 - 10' (H); * (Beware several cherry trees such as Black Cherry - suffers from Black Knot Disease, Yoshino, Wild Cherry, Kanzan - suffers from Soft Brown Spot or Choke Cherry may be difficult to establish and may grow 50' to 75' tall) |
| Crape Myrtle | <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> , Mid-summer blooming, full sun, 15 - 25' (H) x 6' - 15' spread |
| Dogwoods | Spring blooming, part shade, acidic, moist well - drained soil, up to 30' (H) x 25' spread; Pink Dogwood <i>Cornus florida rubra</i> ; Red Dogwood ; White Joy Dogwood <i>Cornus florida- resistant to powdery mildew</i> ; Giant Gray , light shade 15' - 20' (H); Kousa Dogwood 15' - 25' (H); Pagoda or Alternate-leaf Dogwood 15' -25' (H) x 15'- 35' spread; Cherokee Chiefs ; Cornus mas dogwood – early yellow flowers *(Beware - Flowering |

dogwoods differ in size, color & mature height so check the genus profile.)

Downy Service Berry	<i>Amelachier arborea</i> and <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> , Early spring white flower, part sun/ full shade, moist to damp soil, 15'- 25' (H)
Double Viburnum	<i>Viburnum plicatum tomentosum</i> , Spring blooming shrub that can be trained to a small specimen tree, sun/part shade, 10 – 15' (H)
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> , Early spring blooming, part sun/part shade, prefers moist soil, 20' - 35' (H) x 20' - 35' spread
Fringe Tree	Chinese Fringe Tree <i>Chioananthus retusu</i>), Spring white flowers, full sun if irrigated/part shade, moderate moist soil, 15'- 20' (H); White Fringe tree <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> , Early summer blooming, full sun/part shade/full shade, moderate moist soil, 20'- 35'(H) x 20' - 35' spread
Hydrangea Pee Gee	<i>Hydrangea paniculata 'Grandiflora'</i> , Spring flowering shrub can be trained to a small specimen tree, protect from wind, partial shade, moist well drained soil, 10'- 20' (H)
Paw-Paw	<i>Asimina triloba</i> , Late spring blooming, requires both a male & female tree to bloom, full sun, moist soil, 20'- 35' (H) x 20'- 35' spread
Star Magnolia	<i>Magnolia stellata</i> , Early summer blooming, prefers moist, rich soil, full sun, 15' - 20'(H) x 10' - 15' spread; Sweetbay magnolia <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> , semi-evergreen, full sun/part shade, 12 - 30'(H) x 12'- 30' spread; Little Girl Series – composed of 8 magnolia hybrids in a variety of colors; Saucer Magnolia 20'-30' (H) x 25 ' spread

Suggested Ornamental Trees

Japanese Red Maple	<i>Acer palmatum atropurpureum</i> , Prefers medium shade, 15' - 25' (H) x 20' spread; Green Lace Leaf Maple is too small at 3'- 10' (H)
Smoke Tree	<i>Cotinus coggygria</i> , Smoky pink color in summer, works with many soils, 10' - 15 '(H)

Suggested Trees to Avoid

For a variety of reasons, many trees are inappropriate for our modest front yards due to their potential towering height, incompatibility with our loamy/sandy soil or lack of tolerance to our humidity/heat.

The following trees available in zone 7b are among those to be avoided:

- Most maple trees to include Sugar Maple, Red Maple, Silver Maple

- Most Oak trees to include Northern Oak, White Oak, Bur Oak, Scarlet Oak, Pin Oak, Live Oak and Shumard Oak
- Northern Catalpa, London Planetree, Hackberry, American Sweetgum, Blackgum/BlackTupelo, Thornless Honeylocust, Lacebark Elm, Green Giant Arborvitae, American Arborvitae
- Most spruce trees such as Blue Spruce, Norway Spruce, White Spruce
- White Pine, Leland Cypress, White Fir, Douglas Fir, Eastern Red Cedar, Loblolly Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Deodar Cedar, Arizona Cypress, Leyland Cypress

RESOURCES:

- The Tree Book by Arbor Day Foundation
- Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat & Conservation Landscaping Chesapeake Bay Watershed: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Missouri Botanical Garden