



TOP' NATIVE TREES By Pat Curran

Comments

Relatively long-lived, disease/pest resistant, winter-hardy, good foliage quality 'Native' to the Northeast or nearby states

Native Trees for Sun	Comments
Acer rubrum 'Red Sunset', red maple, swamp maple	prefers it moist; reliable fall color
Betula nigra 'Heritage', river birch	borer-resistant; bark interest
 Catalpa speciosa, northern catalpa 	seedpods on lawn; fast-growing
 Chamaecyparis thyoides, Atlantic whitecedar 	evergreen; tolerates soggy site
 Cladrastis kentukea, American yellowwood 	gray bark; pink variety available
 Cotinus obovatus, American smoketree 	fall foliage color; drought-resistant
 Diospyros virginiana, persimmon 	edible fruit, usually dioecious
 Gymnocladus dioicus, Kentucky coffeetree 	very durable; seedpods (dioecious)
 Liriodendron tulipifera, tulip tree 	gets very large; needs moist soil
 Maclura pomifera, Osage orange 	thorns; enormous fruits (dioecious);
 Picea glauca, white spruce 	drought/cold resistant evergreen
 Quercus rubra, northern red oak 	fast-growing, easy- to-transplant oak
 Taxodium distichum, bald cypress 	deciduous conifer; hardier than Metasequoia

Native Trees for Light Shae

Acer pensylvanicum, moosewood, striped maple native understory tree edible fruit, tropical foliage effect Asimina triloba, pawpaw Carpinus caroliniana, musclewood, American hornbeam adaptable; tolerates occasional flooding Cercis canadensis, redbud Cornus alternifolia, pagoda dogwood Halesia carolina 'Wedding Bells', silverbell tree Magnolia acuminata, cucumber tree

showy blooms; self-sow alot; cultivars <hardy fruit for birds; layered branch effect spring blooms even when young large shade tree Magnolia virginiana, sweetbay magnolia needs acid soil; does well in wet sites; semi-evergreen Nyssa sylvatica, black gum consistent fall color; dioecious

Reference:

Native Plants of the Northeast: A Guide for Gardening & Cultivation, Donald J. Leopold (professor at SUNY ESF, Syracuse)

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses, Sixth Edition, Michael Dirr (invaluable and comprehensive, but no color pictures)

Dirr's Encyclopedia of Trees & Shrubs, Michael Dirr (great color pictures, but not as comprehensive)

Shrubs & Vines for American Gardens, Trees for American Gardens, 2 books by Donald Wyman (older references with great plant lists, but do not use USDA hardiness zones)

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