

Street Tree List

Common name	Botanical name	Nativity	Mature Height	Description	Where we plant it	Why we plant it	Notes
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Native to GA	50-70'	Bark is smooth and gray. Leaves have parallel veins. Beech nuts enclosed in rough capsules.	Partially shady spots with good drainage.	Long-lived and attractive.	Upland hardwood species that grows late in succession.
American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Once a popular street tree, it was threatened all over US by Dutch Elm Disease in the mid-twentieth century. It leaves are 3" to 6" long and doubly serrate. It has vase-shaped form.	Street tree, parks, yards. Full sun to partial shade.	Vase shape makes excellent street tree and provides wonderful shade.	We plant the Dutch Elm Disease resistant variety 'Princeton'
American Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Native to GA	15-20'	Shrubby tree with beautiful leaves and unique flowers. Flowers are white and fringe-like.	Under power lines, small spaces with no pedestrian traffic.	Very tolerant to urban conditions and pleasing year-round.	
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Native to GA	40-50'	Leaves are dark green and dull with spiny teeth. Bark is greenish gray. Diecious, females have pretty red berries.	As a large screening tree.	Evergreen, pretty berries.	Be sure to plant male and female plants close by to achieve berries.
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Native to GA	20-40'	An understory tree with bark that looks sinewy, like muscles exist underneath. As simple leaves that resemble American beech.	Small medians, sun or shade	Good option for small front yards or small medians with no overhead utilities	
American Snowbell	<i>Styrax americana</i>	Native to GA	6-10'	Has bright green leaves and its form can be shrubby. The name comes from its small, white, bell-shaped flowers.	Under powerlines in wide medians, yards	Small tree with pretty flowers.	
Anne Magnolia	<i>Magnolia liliiflora x stellata</i>	Native to China	8-10'	Deciduous magnolia that is often shrubby. Has purple-red flowers in late March.	Under power lines in wide medians, yards.	Pretty flowers.	
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Similar to <i>T. ascendens</i> , but with wider canopy and leaves are not scale-like, but small and linear. Branches look feathery with leaves on. Bark is also flaky and brown. Grows "knees" in wet areas, but not on drier sites.	Street tree, yards, parks. Partial shade to full sun and moist soil - ideal for wet areas	Nice symmetrical tree good for street tree plantings.	
Bigleaf Magnolia	<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i>	Native to GA	30-40'	Has very large, simple leaves that are light green above and silvery gray below. Its beautiful, showy white flowers bloom in late spring.	Yards, parks as a specimen tree	Unique; good shade tree	Has the largest simple leaf on an Eastern US tree

Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Compound leaves have nice yellow fall color, called black walnut because the outer husk on the fruit turns black when ripe.	Yards, sunny open areas	Great shade tree	
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Native to GA	30-70'	Leaves are dark green in summer, bright red in early fall. Branches grow horizontal.	Street tree, yards, parks, Partial shade to full sun and moist, slightly acidic soil best.	Nice form, stunning fall color	
Blackjack Oak	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	Native to GA	30-40'	Leaves are wide and lustrous dark green above and brown and fuzzy below. It is shrubby in form.	Parks, yards	Very unique shape	
Carolina Silverbell	<i>Halesia carolina</i>	Native to GA	20-40'	Smaller tree with pretty white flowers that look like clusters of bells drooping from the branches. Also has exfoliating bark and yellow fall color.	Under power lines	Attractive year round	We also plant two-winged silverbell
chalkbark maple	<i>Acer leucoderme</i>	Native to GA	20-30'	Very similar to sugar maple. Leaves are green on both sides and soft (pubescent) on the underside.	Right of ways, under power lines.	Tolerates dry soil and urban setting.	Looks very similar to Florida maple ( <i>Acer barbatum</i> ).
cherrybark oak	<i>Quercus pagoda</i>	Native to GA	70-80'	Tree is similar to Q. falcata in form and size. Its leaves do not have the bell-shaped base that Q. falcata has, and look like a pagoda upside down. Bark resembles a black cherry in maturity (scaly and dark).	Yards, parks, really wide medians	Beautiful form and leaves	
chinkapin oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Native to GA	40-50'	Leaves are coarsely toothed and oblong and have showy fall color, bark is ashy gray	Parks, yards	Nice smaller oak that still gives shade	
cucumber magnolia	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Gets its name from its fruit, which has the shape of a cucumber. It is pyramidal when young, but spreading as a mature tree. Flowers are not showy, but smell nice. Leaves are an attractive light green color.	As a specimen tree in partial shade or full sun.	It is a very beautiful tree.	Used for many hybrids, cultivars.
DD Blanchard magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Has large dark green, glossy leaves and showy white flowers that smell pleasant.	Yards, open areas, as a screen.	Evergreen, makes nice screen.	Not native to Atlanta, and actually becoming invasive.
Deodar Cedar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Eurasia	40-70'	Dense pyramid shape when young, but becomes more widespread and with age. Leaves are grayish green	Open areas, parks	Good for screening. Likes full sun, but best to plant in groups or with other species.	
Devil's Walkingstick	<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	Native to GA	10-15'	Has large bipinnately compound leaves and sharp thorns. Showy white flowers appear in summer.	Out of the way, parks	Unique specimen tree provides interesting landscape	Has largest leaf of Eastern US trees

Downy Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Native to GA	15-25'	The bark is smooth and gray, but has vertical lines that increase in size as the tree grows. Leaves are simple and serrated.	Under power lines in open areas.	Beautiful flowers, edible fruit, and grows in many climate conditions.	we plant 'autumn brilliance'
Eastern Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Native to GA	25-40'	Small to medium-sized tree with dark green leaves that are 2 to 5" long. Has grayish brown bark and good horizontal branch structure.	Small spaces, drier upland sites, street tree	Stays small and looks handsome, drought tolerant	
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Native to GA	20-30'	Has broad leaves and spreading branches. Flowers in spring are sessile and brightly colored.	Under power lines and in right of ways	Many different cultivars that are all beautiful in their own special ways. Grows in full sun or partial shade.	Some varieties we use regularly: Appalachian red, Oklahoma
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Native to GA	40-50'	Leaves are scales and fruit are small cones that look like light blue berries. Has pyramidal or columnar growth habit.	As a large screening tree, does well in full sun.	Evergreen that makes a good screen.	We plant burkii and brodii
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Native to GA	20-30'	Very popular street tree that has showy spring flowers and blocky bark. Needs to be grown in the shade.	Under power lines.	Small and classic.	Not very drought tolerant.
Georgia Oak	<i>Quercus georgiana</i>	Native to GA	15-30'	In nature a small, shrubby oak, but taller and more graceful when cultivated. Has small lobed leaves and dark gray bark.	Works great in wider medians, under power lines	Unique, good for smaller places	Naturally occurs on granite outcrops.
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Native to China	50-80'	Fan-shaped leaves with stunning fall color make this slow grower a prize tree. Looks slightly awkward when young, but magnificent in maturity.	Grows almost anywhere, but best in medium to large yards or wide medians.	Beautiful and hardy.	This tree is dioecious. Be sure to plant male trees if you want to avoid stinky fruit.
Jane Magnolia	<i>Magnolia liliiflora x stellata</i>	Native to China	10-15'	Deciduous magnolia that is often shrubby. Flowers are reddish purple outside and white inside.	Under power lines in wide medians, yards.	Pretty flowers.	
Japanese Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus japonica</i>	Japan	20-30'	Wide-spreading branches. Leaves narrow, parallel venation, and serrate margin.	Under power lines in open areas.	Beautiful foliage.	
Japanese Snowbell	<i>Styrax japonicus</i>	Native to Asia, Taiwan and Phillipines	20-30'	Leaves are medium to dark green in summer and yellow or red in fall. White, bell-shaped flowers are in groups of 3 to 5. Bark is gray-brown with orangish brown fissures.	Street tree under powerlines, yards, parks, Partial shade.	Nice small tree that makes a good street tree	
Japanese Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Native to Japan, Korea	50-80'	Trunk has exfoliating bark. Branches grow upwards making a vase shape. Leaves are similar to an elm, but with sharper serrations.	Street tree.	Shorter and more rounded canopy than U. americana.	Included bark can be a problem on trees with low branching and branches that all come from one point on the tree.

Lacebark Elm (Chinese Elm)	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Native to Asia	40-50'	Bark is most distinguishing feature. It is mottled orange and brown and exfoliating. Leaves are smaller than <i>U. americana</i> and serrate.	Grows in full sun. Good for street plantings, parks, yards.	Tolerates urban heat.	
Loblolly Pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Native to GA	60-90'	Thick brown bark and upward branch growth habit. Needles in fascicles of 3. Has cones.	Yards, parks, open areas in full sun	Grows quickly and works well as an evergreen screen.	
Longleaf Pine	<i>Pinus palustris</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Has long needles (up to 18") and very large cones. It starts its life in a grass stage, then shoots up fast after prompted by fire.	Yards, parks, open areas in full sun	Unique leaves and evergreen.	Common in S. Georgia, but increasingly used in N. Georgia
Mockernut Hickory	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	Native to GA	50-60'	Much like <i>C. glabra</i> , but leaves have 7 leaflets and rachis is hairy. Has golden yellow fall color. Stems and leaves have a strong spicy smell.	Moist, well-drained soil in yards and parks	Beautiful, wildlife	The word tomentose means hairy, <i>C. tomentosa</i> has hairy rachis.
Native Crabapple	<i>Malus sp.</i>	Native to GA	10-25'	Leaves are a medium green and have yellow fall color. Branches have thorns and bark is scaly. Branches low.	Under power lines, in small spaces.	Interesting fruit and pretty flowers.	Susceptible to cedar-apple rust.
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Native to GA	60-75'	Large red oak with leaves that are dark green in summer and red in fall. Bark is dark grey with lighter "ski trails."	Good street tree in large medians, parks, yards, good for full sun and partial shade	Great shade tree, withstands urban conditions	
Nuttall Oak	<i>Quercus nuttallii</i>	Native to GA	50-60'	Leaves resemble those of <i>Q. shumardii</i> with deep sinuses. Bark is smooth, shiny and grayish brown. New growth is reddish.	Yards, wide medians, parks, we use it a lot	Great shade tree that grows quickly and withstands the tough urban environment	
Overcup Oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	Native to GA	40-60'	Medium sized white oak tree named after its acorn caps, which cover most of the fruit.	Can withstand flooding, but also good on well-drained sites. Yards, parks, medians with no power lines	Tough oak, shade	
Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Native to GA	15-20'	Leaves are dark green in summer and bright yellow in fall. Edible fruit is custard-like.	Occurs naturally as an understory tree, but can also grow in full sun	Nice small tree with yummy fruit.	
Pignut Hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	Native to GA	50-60'	Bark is diamond shaped and interlacing. Leaves are pinnately compound. Has large nuts that look like pig's face.	Parks, yards	Great for wildlife	
Pond Cypress	<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Has scale-like leaves that look like needles and has copper fall color. It is a very symmetrical tree, usually columnar or pyramidal. Bark is flaky and brown.	Street tree, yards, parks. Partial shade to full sun and moist soil - ideal for wet areas	Fairly narrow canopy is good for street plantings	

Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>	Native to GA	50-70'	Scientific name comes from the cross-shaped leaves, which are dark green in summer. Bark has small blocky texture, and sometimes looks as if it is wrapping around the tree in a candy cane fashion.	Parks, yards	Unique leaf shape, good shade tree	
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Native to GA	40-60'	Medium sized maple named for its fall color.	Open areas, parks	Grows anywhere and people enjoy the fall color.	Many cultivars. We plant: October Glory, Red Sunset, Autumn blaze
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Native to GA	40-55'	Characteristic flaky bark. Thin twigs make it look like leaves are floating in air.	Places that are wet for a portion of the year, and dry for a portion.	Handles hot climate well.	Grows naturally on river banks and ponds.
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Native to GA	30-60'	Leaves are bright green in summer and in 3 shapes: mitten, entire, and 3-lobed. It has beautiful fall color: orange, red, and yellow. All parts of the tree have a spicy scent (like Fruit Loops).	Parks, yards, full sun to partial shade	A pretty tree that adds interest to landscape	can form stunning thickets through root suckers
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Native to GA	60-75'	As its name implies, it has red fall color. Has smooth gray bark when young that becomes dark brown or black with maturity.	Makes great shade tree, yards, parks	Good color, shade	
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Leaves have orange to red fall color, look similar in shape to <i>Q. nuttallii</i> with deep lobes.	Full sun; parks, yards, as a street tree in large medians	Tolerates dry soil conditions	
Slash Pine	<i>Pinus elliotii</i>	Native to GA	75-100'	Common in the coastal plain, can be distinguished from loblolly by the fan shaped groups of needles growing at the end of branches.	Yards, parks, open areas in full sun	Great evergreen shade tree	
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Native to GA	40-60'	Medium sized tree with beautiful blocky brown bark, leaves turn bright red in fall, showy white flowers in panicles in summer	Specimen tree, parks, yards	Interesting year-round	
Southern Red Oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	Stately red oak. Leaves have a bell-shaped base and the crown is wide and spreading when open grown.	Superb shade tree, does well in full sun	We love big beautiful oak trees	
Swamp Chesnut Oak	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	Native to GA	60-80'	A long-lived oak that has large bullet-like acorns, and large toothed leaves.	Open areas, parks, yards	Great for wildlife	The chesnut oak ( <i>Q. prinus</i> ) grows in upland areas, while <i>Q. michauxii</i> tree grows in bottomlands naturally.

Sweet Bay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Native to GA	30-50'	Light green leaves are whitish underneath and tartally deciduous. Flowers are smaller than M. macrophylla, but still showy and pleasant smelling.	Likes moist soil and partial shade to full sun. We use as a street tree and in parks/yards	Semi-evergreen, nice medium size	
Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	China	20-30'	Small maple that can handle urban conditions. Leaves have 3 lobes. Tends to have low branching and no defined leader stem. Needs continuous pruning.	In right of ways, under power lines.	It doesn't get too tall and is very hardy.	One of few nonnatives we plant, but it performs very well; is not invasive.
Umbrella Magnolia	<i>Magnolia tripetela</i>	Native to GA	15-30'	Similar to M. macrophylla in shape, but leaves are smaller and not fuzzy underneath. Flowers are smaller and smell unpleasant.	Yards, parks as a specimen tree	Pretty, smaller than bigleaf	
Vernal Witchhazel	<i>Hamamelis vernalis</i>	Native to Ozark Mtns.	6-10'	Small tree with gray stems and yellow to red, fragrant flowers in late winter.	Small spaces where people can see the flowers up close	Small and unique	If looking for a native, plant <i>H. virginiana</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Native to GA	60-100'	Majestic in maturity, it has rounded lobed leaves and silvery gray, platy bark.	Yards, parks, open areas with no power lines	Beautiful, ideal shade tree	
Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Native to GA	40-60'	Leaves are narrow (willow-like), green in spring/summer and yellow in fall; acorns small. Bark is gray-brown and furrowed in maturity.	Does well as a street tree, full sun	Tough tree that can withstand urban conditions	
Winged Elm	<i>Ulmus alata</i>	Native to GA	45-70'	Leaves are doubly serrate. Stems have corky wings. It has a vase-like shape characteristic of elms.	Street tree, parks, yards. Full sun to partial shade.	Good medium sized street tree.	
Winterking Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	Native to GA	20-30'	Tree tends to grow in round shape. Leaves vary slightly in shape. Has attractive red fruit that persists into the winter.	Under power lines.	Small and has beautiful flowers and fruit.	We commonly plant Winter King variety
Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus flava</i>	Native to GA	40-70'	Palmate leaf structure (usually 5 leaflets). One of the largest buckeyes growing in Georgia.	Open areas, parks	It is a very beautiful tree.	