



## Arlington Tree Canopy Fund Species – Spring 2025

### Overview

- All of these species do well in our area, generally accepting of our clay soils. The few that do not do well in clay are mentioned.
- Trees are generally 2-inch caliper, 7-feet high at planting.
- The tree growth rate is given for height: Slow= 12"/year Medium=18"/year Fast = 24"/year

### Section I - Large Shade Trees

May have width greater than 40 feet  
Not recommended for planting within 15 feet of overhead wires.

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	50-70	50-70	Full sun to partial shade	Wide-spreading branches. Less tolerant of dry soil; has shallow roots. Nuts attract wildlife. Doesn't tolerate compacted, wet or poorly drained soils. Slow to medium growth rate.
American sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	70-100	70-90	Full sun	Interesting, multicolored bark; moderate wildlife value. An adaptable, tough tree. Medium-fast growth rate.
Scarlet oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	70-75	40-50	Full sun	Striking fall color, high wildlife value, medium-fast growth rate. Glossy dark green leaves. Less tolerant of adverse soil conditions.
Swamp white oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	60-80	50-75	Full sun to partial shade	Leaves dark, shiny green above and silvery white beneath; good fall color. High wildlife value. Tolerates flooding, drought, and a range of soils. Slow-medium growth rate.
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	60-75	40-50	Full sun to partial shade	Tree with star-shaped leaves turning brilliant fall colors, corky bark, and spiky fruit. Prefers well-drained soils. Medium to fast growth rate.

White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	50-80	50-80	Full sun	High wildlife value, slow to medium growth rate. Leaves blueish-green in summer. Does NOT tolerate soil compaction or disturbance of its root zone, nor very wet soil.
Willow oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	40-60	40-60	Full sun	Moderate wildlife value, medium to fast growth rate. More tolerant of adverse soil conditions, including very wet.

## Section II - Medium Shade Trees

### Trees with less than 40 feet width

Common Name	Genus & Species	Mature Height (ft.)	Mature Width (ft.)	Sunlight Requirements	Species Description
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	50-100	20-35	Full sun to partial shade	Tolerant wet soils, Stately with pale green foliage turning golden and purple in fall, small 1" cones.
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	30-50	20-30	Full sun to partial shade	Tree with glossy green leaves turning brilliant red in fall, small dark blue fruit. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Medium growth rate.
Eastern hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	25-40	20-30	Sun to light shade	Hop-shaped flowers, slow growth, attractive exfoliating bark, moderate wildlife value, tolerates occasional dry soil.
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	20-35	20-35	Partial shade to full sun	Tree with fragrant white flowers and glossy green leaves, semi-evergreen. Prefers moist, acidic soils. Medium growth rate.

### Right Tree, Right Place, Right at Home!

- Plant trees at least 20 feet away from any overhead electric utility lines. This is the horizontal distance from the tree trunk to the wire or utility pole.
- Plant at least 10 feet from a building.
- Plant at least 10 feet from existing small trees and 20 feet from existing large trees.
- Plant trees at least 4 feet from sidewalks, driveways, patios and fences. Planting distances may also be affected by site conditions or the species.

- Plant trees at least 5 feet away from any known underground utility lines (water, gas, electric or sewer lines for example). If approved for a tree, Miss Utility will be called to check the planting location for distance to underground utilities.
- To lower your cooling costs, shade your home by planting canopy trees on the southwestern and western sides.