



Whitemarsh Tree Giveaway

Native Species Options

Fall 2025



Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioica*)

A great landscape tree, the Kentucky coffeetree prefers moist, sunny spots. Its large (up to 3' long), bipinnate compound leaves are often mistaken for branches when the tree is young, giving it the appearance of a gangly teenager. Bipinnate leaves (lefthand photo below is a single leaf) are compound leaves in which the primary segments (leaflets or pinnae) are further segmented into secondary subleaflets or pinnules. Seeds found within the pods of female trees were roasted to remove the toxins and used for food or ground for caffeine-free "coffee" by native Americans and early settlers.

Mature Height: 60 to 80 feet

Mature: 40-55 feet

Sun: Full sun

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low



<https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/tree/kentucky-coffee-tree>

<https://bplant.org/plant/2800>

<https://extension.okstate.edu/programs/oklahoma-proven/plant-profiles/kentucky-coffee-tree.html>

Prok Common Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana* 'Prok')

As a self-fertilizing Persimmon cultivar (does not require a nearby male tree), this tree is prized for producing the sweetest, juiciest persimmons. This native, deciduous species is striking, especially in the fall when the fruit is mature, after the leaves have dropped, leaving orange globes hanging from the branches just in time for Halloween. The unique bark forms deeply furrowed, thick blocks. The fruit is also delicious to birds and other wildlife.

Mature Height: 35 to 60 feet

Mature Spread: 25 to 35 feet

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Dry to medium

Maintenance: Low



<https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/persimmon.htm>

<https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/persimmon.htm>

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=divi5

Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

A great shade tree that grows quite rapidly, the swamp white oak can live over 300 years. This oak, as all oaks, attracts over 500 species of butterflies, moths, and birds! It prefers moist soils, but is adaptable to a range of conditions except for dry, upland sites. And it tolerates flooding! The leaves have rounded lobes, characteristic of members of the white oak family. The tops of the leaves are smooth and shiny, while the undersides are fuzzy and velveteen.

Height: 50 to 60 feet
Spread: 50 to 60 feet
Sun: Full sun
Water: Medium to wet
Maintenance: Low



https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/trees/swamp_white_oak.htm
https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/trees/swamp_white_oak.htm
https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/trees/swamp_white_oak.htm

'Princeton' Elm (*Ulmus americana* 'Princeton')

The 'Princeton' elm, resistant to the devastating Dutch Elm disease, grows rapidly and provides homes for 196 species of butterflies and moths. It is tolerant of many urban stressors and soil types. It will likely require some structural pruning in its early years to maximize its structural integrity for a long life.

Height: 50 to 70 feet
Spread: 30 to 50 feet
Sun: Full sun
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low



<https://mtlebanon.org/parks-recreation/parks/lebo-arboretum/specimen-tree-collection/princeton-american-elm/>
<https://mortonarb.org/plant-and-protect/trees-and-plants/princeton-elm/>
<https://naturewalk.yale.edu/trees/ulmaceae/ulmus-americana/american-elm-142>

Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)

This evergreen tree can provide screening and windbreak. Though it can grow really tall, its height in the landscape can be controlled with arborist-directed proper pruning. Each leaf is a cluster of five needles, super soft to the touch. Limbs can drop as the tree matures so we advise against planting where it will overhang your house.

Mature Height: 50 to 80 feet

Mature Spread: 20 to 40 feet

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low



<https://wildadirondacks.org/trees-of-the-adirondacks-eastern-white-pine-pinus-strobus.html>

<https://orleansconservationtrust.org/eastern-white-pine-pinus-strobus/>

<https://wp.towson.edu/glenarboretum/home/eastern-white-pine/>

Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*)

Mature Height: 30 to 40 feet

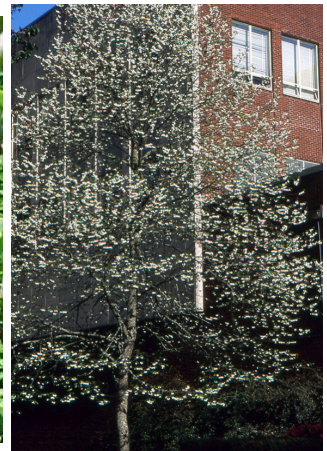
Mature Spread: 20 to 35 feet

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

This lovely understory tree will be a unique addition to your yard. The Carolina silverbell has drooping clusters of small, bell-shaped white flowers that develop into nut-like fruits in the fall. The spring flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies and bees, while the seeds of the fall fruit feed small mammals like squirrels.



<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=287278&isprofile=1&basic=Halesia%20carolina>

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=287278&isprofile=1&basic=Halesia%20carolina>

<https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu/plants/halesia-carolina>

Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*)

Mature Height: 20 to 50 feet

Mature Spread: 10 to 25 feet

Sun: Full sun, preferred, tolerates part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

Sourwoods, also known as sorrel trees, are understory trees that pair well with other acid-loving plants like rhododendrons and azaleas. Their finely-toothed ovate leaves give rise to bright red color in the fall, serving as a lovely backdrop for yellowish seed-containing capsules that form from the Lily-of-the-valley-like fragrant, spring flowers that attract bees. Sourwood honey is a specialty. Leaves of sourwood trees are sour and edible, and were used by some indigenous populations as laxatives. The blossoms were used to prepare jelly.



https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/species.php?id_plant=OXAR

https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/species.php?id_plant=OXAR

https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/species.php?id_plant=OXAR

Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*)

A small, deciduous native tree, its species (*alternifolia*) refers to its unique leaf pattern of alternating leaves on the stem. All other dogwoods in the genus *Cornus* harbor opposite leaves on the stem. "Pagoda" refers to its unique tiered, horizontal branching, reminiscent of an Asian pagoda with overhanging eaves. Abundant showy, fragrant, white spring flowers that attract pollinators develop into bluish black fall fruit (drupes) that attract birds, hence a wonderful choice for wildlife. Reddish purple leaves provide fall interest.

Mature Height: 15 to 25 feet

Mature Spread: 20 to 32 feet

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low



<https://fairfaxgardening.org/pagoda-dogwood/>

<https://fairfaxgardening.org/pagoda-dogwood/>

<https://www.conservect.org/product/pagoda-dogwood/>

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

A gorgeous native understory tree that produces bright pink flowers that sometimes travel along branches and trunks! Since they are in the pea family, fertilized flowers form pods. The Eastern redbud hosts twenty-four species of butterflies and moths. It is a short-lived species, ranging 25-40 years, and requires structural pruning to prevent issues as the tree ages. Their flowers are a favorite for the early-emerging native spring bees, and the seeds and buds feed songbirds. And we can eat the flowers, a tasty garnish to a spring salad. The middle photo below illustrates cauliflory, the process by which flowers can emerge directly from the trunk or woody branches.

Mature Height: 20 to 30 feet

Mature Spread: 25 to 35 feet

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low



<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=280440&isprofile=1&basic=cercis%20canadensis>

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=280440&isprofile=1&basic=cercis%20canadensis>

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=280440&isprofile=1&basic=cercis%20canadensis>

Willow oak (*Quercus phellos*)

This medium to large canopy tree will be a welcome addition to your landscape. This oak, as all oaks, attracts over 500 species of butterflies, moths, and birds! This species has simple leaves (similar to willows) and is in the red oak family which indicates that the leaves have pointy bristles (see lefthand image below.). (Species in the white oak family have rounded lobes.) According to the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program and professional arborists, this species is endangered in Pennsylvania due to habitat loss and climate change. If you are looking for a great shade tree, hoping to serve the local wildlife, and support the recovery of this valued species, this tree is for you.

Mature Height: 40 to 75 feet

Mature Spread: 25 to 50 feet

Sun: Full sun

Water: Medium to wet

Maintenance: Low



<https://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=75>

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/quercus-phellos/>

<https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu/plants/quercus-phellos>