

Urban Tree

A tree specifically selected for its ability to withstand harsh urban conditions, its upright branching habit, and its non-invasive root system.

Proposed Uses:

- It is the tree of choice for future Town Center.
- For Townhouses and Mixed Use Buildings, Urban Trees are required in the Streetscape zone.
- For large retail centers, Urban Trees are required along the facades of active storefronts.
- For large retail centers, Urban Trees are required along internal pedestrian connections.
- For large retail centers, Urban Trees are required along major access lanes.

Urban Tree List:

- Allee (Lacebark) Elm
- Chinese Pistache
- Ginkgo
- Homestead Elm
- Lacey Oak
- Pond Cypress
- Shantung Maple
- Teddy Bear Magnolia
- Urbanite Ash

Standards:

- At least 3-inch caliper in size
- Single trunked
- Limbed up to 6-feet
- To avoid monocultures, no more than 25% of the required trees shall be of the same species.

Sources: Due to the overall vast number of sources consulted and the fact that this brochure is intended as an uncomplicated reference and educational item, citations were not included. Staff thanks all contributors.

Allee Elm



The parent tree of the **Allee Elm** is located on the University of Georgia campus and is approximately 60 years old. The Allee Elm has a vase shaped form with long arching branches. The Allee Elm produces rich green and glossy foliage that changes to yellow during the fall. The Allee Elm has exfoliating bark which is outstandingly attractive. The bark on an Allee Elm peels off in a puzzle like pattern and exposes rich shades of gray, green, brown and orange. The best quality of the Allee Elm is its ability to withstand the harshest growing conditions by growing well in a wide range of soil types and in restricted soil spaces. The Allee Elm is also resistant to Dutch Elm Disease, Elm Leaf Beetles and Japanese Beetles.

Allee Elm is a rather graceful round-headed tree that grows at a medium to fast rate depending on moisture and fertility levels. Leaves are dark green changing to yellowish to redish purple in fall. The bark is magnificent and often a beautiful mottled combination of gray, green orange and brown.

Allee Elm grows well in a wide range of soil types, adjusts easily to extremes in soil pH and adapts well to the challenges of restricted soil spaces such as those found in street tree pits, parking lot islands and various planters surrounded by pavement. The Allee Elm is also ideal for street tree plantings because of its upright branching. The cultivar tolerates the heat and wind common to urban sites and adapts well to drought conditions.



Chinese Pistache



The **Chinese Pistache** is highly recommended by horticultural experts at Texas A&M, Oklahoma State and Kansas State Universities. The Chinese Pistachio is a medium sized ornamental tree from China and Taiwan that is extremely winter hardy and has a superior level of drought, heat and wind tolerance. The Chinese Pistache is the first shade tree to receive the coveted "Earth-Kind" designation from the Texas

Agricultural Extension Service for its high levels of genetic resistance to insect and disease problems. The Chinese Pistache has extremely hard, durable wood which helps protect the tree from wind, ice and decay. Chinese Pistache trees have a medium to fine textured foliage that remains an attractive deep green color during the growing season and a spectacular fall color in shades of orange, red, and crimson.

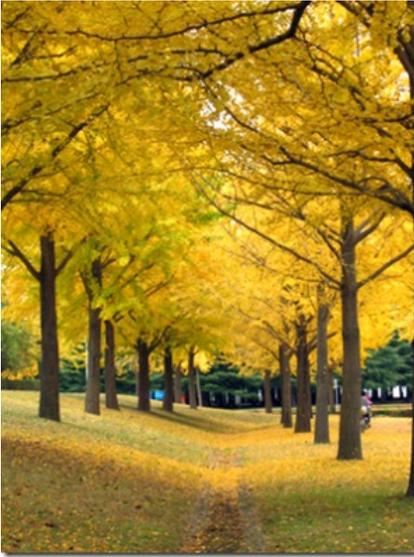


HABIT: Fast growing shade tree with open structure, yellow, red, and orange fall color – sometimes all at once. Compound leaves with 10-16 paired leaflets. Light, smooth bark when young.

CULTURE: Easy to grow in any well-drained soil, drought tolerant.

USES: Shade tree, fall color.

Ginkgo



Attributes:

The Ginkgo is a good urban tree because of its ability to tolerate drought, heat, and poor soils. This extraordinary tree can adapt to just about any climate. (It survived the last ice age, after all.) It suffers no pest or disease problems, and it tolerates a wide range of soils.

Description: The Ginkgo is adapted for use as a street tree, even in confined soil spaces. Ginkgo is easy to recognize by its unique fan-shaped leaves, which turn a brilliant golden yellow in autumn.

History/Lore/Use:

The Ginkgo tree is a living fossil and the earliest leaf fossils date from 270 million years ago. It was rediscovered in 1691 in China and was brought to this country in the late 1700's. Individual trees may live as long as 3,000 years and the seeds and leaves are used in medicine throughout the world.



Homestead Elm

LANDSCAPE NOTES: Homestead Elm is a superior hybrid Elm. Much research has resulted in longer-lived trees that are resistant to the infamous killer - Dutch Elm Disease. The sentimental Elm is back with hybrids superior in form to the American Elm. Homestead is great for lawns or garden borders.

Comments: Homestead Elm is a fast-growing tree with an upright, arching branching habit that is similar to the American Elm. Resistant to Dutch Elm disease, the tree was hybridized by the USDA Nursery Crops lab. The fall color is yellow.

Description: This elm, resistant to Dutch Elm disease, is fast-growing and tolerant of a wide variety of soils and conditions. Grows straight and tall, with a single leader, with no pruning.





Lacey Oak

Beautiful small oak native to Texas Hill Country. Spreading canopy with attractive bluish-green foliage. Highly tolerant to heat, drought, alkaline soil, and pests. Makes wonderful shade tree for smaller yards. Lacey oak deserves frequent consideration when discussing smaller shade trees that will stay in scale with residential landscapes. This beautiful tree will add a touch of the Texas hill country to your urban landscape.

Medium size deciduous shade tree

HEIGHT: 25 to 35 feet

SPREAD: 15 to 20 feet

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION: Lacey oak is a beautiful small to medium tree with blue-green mature foliage, peach colored new growth and similar fall color.

FOLIAGE: Leaves are leathery, dusky blue to blue gray to grayish green. Fall color ranges from pink or peach to gold. The new growth in the spring is a similar color.

CULTURE: Easy to grow and adapts to many soil from sand to heavy clays. Can be found growing natively in the white limestone rocky soils so this is an excellent choice for the black and white soils of a large portion of Texas. It is drought tolerant and needs little fertilizer.

INSIGHT: The leaves are quite small in comparison to other oaks. Lacey oak is a trouble free tree that should be used much more in the landscape.

Pond Cypress

Pond Cypress is a narrower version of the more familiar Bald Cypress and does not tend to throw up “knees” like the Bald Cypress.

HABIT: Rapid growth, more narrow than regular bald cypress, green earlier in spring and longer into fall. Leaves spiral out from the stem and do not open. Long delicate filament-like leaves. Lovely, soft overall appearance. Rust fall color.

SIZE: Columnar in habit. Grow rate is a good medium rate in this region.

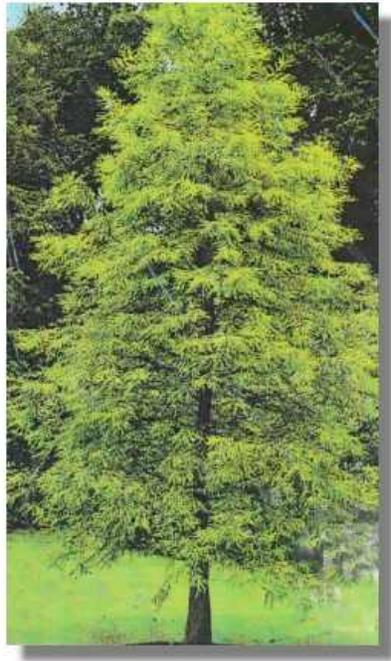
FOLIAGE: New growth is a light green unfolding to a softer dark green in summer. Fall color is a rich reddish brown.

BARK: Thick, furrowed and reddish-brown. Very attractive.

Pests and Diseases: None noticed.

Landscape Use: Prefers wet swampy areas, but can also tolerate high dry sites. Being narrower in size than the Bald Cypress gives it more flexibility in use. Could make a good street tree. Is very wind-firm, hurricane force winds rarely ever turn them over. Very adaptable.

Performance - 10



Shantung Maple



The **Shantung Maple** is a midsize ornamental tree that is great for small yards and it tolerates alkaline soils, drought, and strong wind. The Shantung Maple steps up to autumn with leaves that are gorgeous golden yellow flecked with red before they launch into orange and finally turn into a blazing red. The Shantung Maple differentiates from other maples (Red Maple, Silver Maple, and October Glory) in that the canopy is denser and the leaves are more delicate, which is

reminiscent of a Japanese maple but with much greater toughness (tolerates full sun). The Shantung Maple was designated a Texas superstar tree by Texas A&M University in 2001 (<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>).

SHANTUNG MAPLE is a fast growing shade tree newly introduced from the land of Crape Myrtles, China. It has appealing sweet-gum like leaves with colors from rust to purple in the spring. Clusters of small lemon yellow flowers first appear before the leaves. With time the bark becomes heavily fissured and very attractive. This tree is tested in alkaline soils, takes drought, and has strong wood and branch angles to resist the Texas winds. Fall colors are absolutely beautifully golden yellow with some red mixed in, to orange, to solid red some years. These are seedling grown so there will be some variability. THE TREE OF THE MILLENIUM. Metro Maples thinks this is the best shade tree the DFW Metroplex has ever had.



I have been told that there is not a perfect tree, but if you have a space that requires a small to medium tree, a Shantung Maple seems to be as near perfect as they get. It is native to northern China and will reach a mature height of 25 to 30 feet tall and 20 feet wide. It will grow in hot sun and thrives in most of our Texas soils.

It has been on the Texas Superstar list since 2001 and has, also, been designated an Earth Kind tree which means that it has been thoroughly tested and will help create beautiful, productive landscapes that require minimum maintenance and provide maximum environmental protection. According to a Kansas State University study, it is one of the least damaged trees in an ice storm. An added benefit is the beautiful fall color.

Teddy Bear® *Magnolia* is a very compact native *Magnolia* with an upright self-branching habit. Teddy Bear® has small to medium sized shiny dark green leaves. The leaf back is reddish-brown and heavily felted. When plants 3-4 years old, they begin producing flowers that bloom May until November. These lovely fragrant white flowers are 6" to 8" wide. A long, continuous flower season helps to control plant size however, if more control is needed, Teddy Bear® *Magnolia* can be easily pruned to maintain a much smaller size. This wonderful *Magnolia* blooms best and retains a more compact size when grown in full sun. Our original un-pruned parent plant is 19 years old and only 17 feet tall and 10 feet wide with a full dense habit from the ground up.



Plant a Teddy Bear Magnolia. It is only about 25 feet tall in 20 years. It never needs pruning so stay away with the shears except to shape it up after about 10 years. The best thing about it is it will stay small for a magnolia. It has a beautiful black green color in the winter. It loves the heat so don't take it any colder than a Zone 6 but it is big in coastal areas and out in Texas/OK.

Magnolia Teddy Bear

Rounded, cupped leaves held densely gives this tree its teddy bear appeal. This remarkable Southern Magnolia looks like no other, thanks to its unusual, very attractive foliage. Instead of the usual oblong, slightly recurved leaves, it has rounded, cupped foliage held very densely. This gives it a "furry" teddy bear look you will love. Teddy Bear, an evergreen, perfumes the garden in spring with its 6- to 8-inch handsome, pure white blooms. The foliage is very showy-a shiny, rich dark green-keeping this tree fascinating year-round. It's easy to grow and quite tolerant of heat and drought, thriving even in semi-tropical climates. What a perfect specimen for the front yard, or perimeter planting in back! Teddy Bear thrives in any light from full sun to shade, and tolerates just about any soil. Zones 6-10.

Urbanite Ash

Full Description: Shiny dark green foliage with light colored back. Performs well in hot, humid southern climates. Resistant to borers.

Landscape value: A symmetrical habit, highly lustrous foliage and distinctive bark are just three positive attributes of this tough shade tree. Very good for street, park and garden plantings.

A well behaved selection of the "Red Ash" type. Very tolerant of city conditions, its thick bark seems more resistant to sunscald than other Ash cultivars.

