

# STREET TREE PLANTING IN UPPER ARLINGTON



## An Overview of the Guidelines and Recommended Species for Our Community's Street Tree Program

*Under the guidance of the Upper Arlington City Tree Commission, the City maintains over 18,000 trees within the public right-of-way. These trees enhance our quality of life by shading pavement, slowing traffic, increasing property values, and improving the local environment in numerous other ways.*

*The City encourages residents to plant trees within the public right-of-way, in keeping with the guidelines outlined in this brochure. Residents can purchase street trees to be planted through the Cost Share Street Tree Program. More information about this program is available at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov) or by calling 614-583-5340 to request an order form.*

*Street trees should be chosen, planted and maintained in such a way that they can thrive despite exhaust fumes, a narrow planting space, road salt, pedestrians, heat, utilities and other challenges.*

### Planning Your Streetscape

Residents must contact the City to obtain a permit before planting, pruning or removing any tree in a public street right-of-way. The right-of-way includes the tree lawn between the curb and sidewalk, and on most streets it extends well beyond the sidewalk. Street trees may be planted in the right-of-way on streets where no curbs or sidewalks exist.

Trees should be planted at least seven feet from fire hydrants and street lights, driveways and street signs, six feet from underground utility line valves or drain pipes, and 35 feet from the corner curb of street intersections. In addition, the following spacing guidelines generally apply:

- **Small Species:** at least 26 inches from the edge of curb or walk and 10 feet from the nearest tree.
- **Medium Species:** at least 30 inches from the edge of curb or walk and 20 feet from the nearest tree.
- **Large Species:** at least 42 inches from the edge of curb or walk and 30 feet from the nearest tree.



**PARKS & REC**  
City of Upper Arlington

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Phone: 614-583-5340 | [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov)

If trees are purchased through the Cost Share Street Tree Program, the City will plant them, taking responsibility for proper tree placement and the location of underground utilities. Residents or contractors who plant trees after obtaining a City permit must call the Ohio Utilities Protection Service to have utilities located (800-362-2764 or 811). Neighborhoods are encouraged to work together on group planting projects.

Care of Street Trees

Residents are encouraged to provide routine care for street trees. New trees should be watered regularly! Once per week (one inch of water) for at least the first two summers and falls is recommended. Keeping a two-to-three foot circle of mulch, no more than three-inches deep, over the root zone is also important to avoid damaging trunks with mowers and string trimmers. Most other tree maintenance, including pruning on a six-year cycle, is provided by the City. The City will also remove dying or unsafe trees and plant replacements as needed, or repair sidewalks damaged by street tree roots.

Recommended Street Trees

The following trees should be successful in the situations specified. However, every site should be evaluated carefully. Tree species and site must be carefully matched. The City’s Certified Arborists can help identify which trees are appropriate for a given location, and species not on this list may be considered.

Many species include named cultivars, which can vary greatly in appearance and other qualities. Do your homework before purchasing cultivars to be sure you know what you are buying. Few cultivars are listed herein, but the City plants many cultivars of the species on this list. Residents may also see many of these trees on our City Park Tree Treks – self-guided tree walks through Fancyburg, Miller, Northam and Thompson parks.

Large Species

Over 45 feet tall at maturity. Suitable for tree lawns at least seven feet wide, with no overhead utility lines.

Norway Maple (select cultivars only)	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Freeman Hybrid Maple	<i>Acer freemanii</i>
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Black Maple	<i>Acer nigrum</i>
Hybrid Shantung Maple	<i>Acer truncatum x platanoides</i>
Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus octandra</i>

Black Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>
Sugar Hackberry	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Turkish Filbert/Hazel	<i>Corylus colurna</i>
European Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
Ginkgo (males only)	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
Honeylocust (thornless)	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i>
Kentucky Coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>
Sweet Gum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
Tulip Tree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Cucumber Magnolia	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>
Dawn Redwood	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Chinkapin Oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>
Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Japanese Pagoda Tree	<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
American Linden	<i>Tilia americana</i>
Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
Crimean Linden	<i>Tilia x euchlora</i>
Silver Linden	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>
Hybrid Elm	<i>Ulmus x sp.</i>
Japanese Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>





## Medium Species

Reaching 30–45 feet. For tree lawns at least five-six feet wide with no low overhead wires.

Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Miyabe Maple & Hybrids	<i>Acer miyabe</i>
Hedge Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Manchurian Alder	<i>Alnus hirsuta</i>
Red Horsechestnut	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>
European Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>
Katsura Tree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>
American Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>
Hardy Rubber Tree	<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>
Goldenraintree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>
Magnolia Hybrids (tree form)	<i>Magnolia sp.</i>
American Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Okame Cherry	<i>Prunus x incisa</i>
Sargent Cherry	<i>Prunus sargentii</i>
Sawtooth Oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>
Tupelo (cultivars)	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Lacebark Chinese Elm & Hybrids	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>
Wireless Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Schmidtlow'

## Small Species

Reaching 15-30 feet. For tree lawns at least five feet wide or with overhead wires.

Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Kousa Dogwood & Hybrids	<i>Cornus kousa</i>
Cornelian Cherry Dogwood (tree form)	<i>Cornus mas</i>
Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergerianum</i>
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>
Paperbark Maple	<i>Acer griseum</i>
Tatarian Maple	<i>Acer tataricum</i>
Red Buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>
Serviceberry (tree form)	<i>Amelanchier sp.</i>
Lavalle Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus x lavallei</i>



Green Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i> 'Winter King'
Amur Maackia	<i>Maackia amurensis</i>
Crabapple (oval or upright forms and cultivars only)	<i>Malus sp.</i>
Sweetbay Magnolia (tree form)	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>
Persian Parrotia (tree form)	<i>Parrotia persica</i>
Japanese Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>
Peking Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa pekinensis</i>

## Undesirable Street Trees

Under most circumstances, the following species are not suitable for planting as street trees. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) may be acceptable for site specific use, such as in yards and open spaces, or on wooded or large open rights-of-way areas. The City is also happy to consider any species selection or streetscape design proposal on a case-by-case basis, even if the proposal deviates from these guidelines, or includes unusual species. In general, shrubs and evergreens are prohibited in the right-of-way.

Fir*	<i>Abies sp.</i>
Boxelder	<i>Acer negundo</i>
Norway Maple (straight species)	<i>Acer platanoides</i> (invasive)
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>
Ohio Buckeye*	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>
Horsechestnut*	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>

## Undesirable Street Trees continued from page 3

Ailanthus	<i>Ailanthus altissima (invasive)</i>
Northern Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>
Birch (except River Birch)	<i>Betula sp. (except B. nigra)</i>
Flowering Dogwood*	<i>Cornus florida</i>
Black Walnut*	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Osage Orange (Thornless male cultivars may be considered)	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>
Mulberry	<i>Morus sp.</i>
Spruce*	<i>Picea sp.</i>
Pine*	<i>Pinus sp.</i>
American Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
Poplar, Cottonwood	<i>Populus sp.</i>
Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
Purpleleaf Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana (invasive)</i>
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Willow	<i>Salix sp.</i>
European Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
Hemlock*	<i>Tsuga sp.</i>
Siberian Elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>
Fruit tree varieties bred for edible fruit (apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, etc.)*	
Shrubs, evergreens, or weeping varieties of any tree species*	



## Upper Arlington Tree Commission

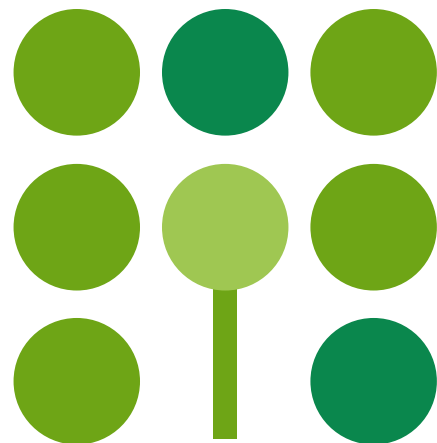
The Upper Arlington Tree Commission is a group of seven residents appointed by the President of Council. The Commission's purpose is to advise City Council on urban forestry issues, to educate residents and to work with professional staff in support of a comprehensive municipal forestry program. Members serve three-year terms, and meetings are held the first Tuesday of every other month.

The goal of the Upper Arlington Tree Commission is to guide and facilitate the operation of a comprehensive municipal forestry program which enhances the quality of life for all Upper Arlington residents. Programs include:

- Cost Share Street Tree Program
- Commemorative Tree Program
- Tree Treks in City Parks
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Volunteer planting projects
- Street tree maintenance and replacement
- Park tree maintenance and replacement
- Invasive plant removal with the Friends of UA Parks  
[www.friendsofuaparks.com](http://www.friendsofuaparks.com)



Upper Arlington has received the National Tree City USA award each year since 1990. Thank you for your interest in a greener, more sustainable Upper Arlington.



City of **Upper  
Arlington**

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