# LEAVE A GREEN LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS PLANT A TREE IN YOUR YARD

## SARATOGA NEEDS YOU to plant a tree in your yard

#### WHY PLANT TREES?

With just a little care, trees give us long lasting beauty, and they pay us back in so many ways

- Increase property value
- *Improve* physical and mental health
- Fight Climate Change: Reduce energy use & bills, reduce water pollution, improve air quality
- Native trees provide habitat for a variety of wildlife



#### **WHAT TO PLANT?**

- Large-growing shade trees provide more benefits than small ornamentals.
- Native and near-native species are most suited to our local conditions. They have the best chance for survival and they support our native wildlife, including birds, mammals, and pollinating insects. Say NO to invasive species.
- Plant a variety of species. Diversity is essential to protect against the effects of disease and pests, and gives us a lovely array of blooms and fall color.
- Think outside the (big box store) and consider uncommon natives. A diverse forest is a resilient and healthy forest. Explore the world beyond Maples and do an Internet search to learn about unfamiliar species.

#### WHERE TO BUY TREES

LOCAL NURSERIES and big box stores, such as:

Bob's Trees, Galway, NY; Brookside Nursery, Ballston Spa, NY; Hewitt's (multiple locations); Wild Things Rescue Nursery, Valley Falls, NY; Home Depot, Lowes, Tractor Supply, sell trees in containers or ball & burlap (see below)

#### LOCAL (bare root) SEEDLINGS IN BULK:

Saratoga County Soil & Water, Ballston Spa, NY; Saratoga Tree Nursery, Saratoga Springs, NY

#### MAIL ORDER COMPANIES, including:

Arbor Day Foundation, Lincoln, NE; Fedco, Clinton, ME; Cold Stream Farm, Free Soil, MI; Chief River Nursery, Grafton, WI; Riverside Native Trees, Delaware, OH usually sell bare root trees or seedlings

#### TREE TYPES

**BARE ROOT**: Dormant trees shipped with no soil around the roots.

**BALL & BURLAP**: Field-grown trees that are dug up with the root ball (soil and roots) intact and wrapped in burlap.

**CONTAINER**: Smaller trees grown in pots. **SEEDLING**: Very young trees, usually bare root.





### RECOMMENDED SPECIES OF NATIVE (AND NEAR NATIVE) TREES

#### LARGE GROWING SHADE TREES FOR MAXIMUM BENEFIT

- American Basswood (Tilia americana)
- River Birch (Betula nigra); White Birch (Betula papyrifera)
- Kentucky Coffeetree (Gymnocladus dioicus) Male only
- American Elm (Ulmus americana) Choose disease-resistant cultivars such as 'Princeton' and 'Valley Forge'
- Hackberry (Celtis occidentalis)
- Thornless Honeylocust (Gleditsia triacanthos v. inermis)
- Red Maple (Acer rubrum); Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum); Silver Maple (Acer saccharinum); Autumn Blaze Maple (Acer freemanii)
- White Oak (Quercus alba); Swamp White Oak (Quercus bicolor); Bur Oak (Quercus macrocarpa); Chestnut Oak (Quercus montana); Northern Red Oak (Quercus rubra); Scarlet Oak (Quercus coccinea); Pin Oak (Quercus palustris); Chinkapin Oak (Quercus muehlenbergii)
- American Sycamore (Platanus occidentalis)
- Tulip Tree (Liriodendron tulipifera) Choose a cold-hardy cultivar
- Black Tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica) Choose a cold-hardy cultivar
- Black Walnut (Juglans nigra)
- Black Cherry (Prunus serotina)





Hackberry







Pin Oak

Tulip Tree

Swamp White Oak

#### **NATIVE CONIFERS**

Basswood

- Red Pine (Pinus resinosa); Eastern White Pine (Pinus strobus); Pitch Pine (Pinus rigida)
- White **Spruce** (Picea glauca)

#### SMALL ORNAMENTAL TREES

Fewer benefits, plant where space is limited, for example, under utility wires

- Crabapple (Malus)
- Hawthorne (Crataegus)
- Serviceberry, aka Shadbush, Juneberry (Amelanchier)
- American Hornbeam (Carpinus caroliniana)
- Eastern Redbud (Cercis canadensis)
- Flowering Dogwood (Cornus florida), Pagoda Dogwood (Cornus alternifolia)

#### DO NOT PLANT THESE SPECIES

**INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES**, including: Norway Maple (Acer platanoides): look out for 'Crimson King'; Callery Pear (Pyrus calleryana): look out for 'Bradford', 'Cleveland Select', and 'Aristocrat'; Japanese Tree Lilac; Paulownia; Tree-of-Heaven (Ailanthus altissima); White or Silver Poplar (Populus alba); Burning Bush shrub (Euonymus alatus)

PEST-THREATENED SPECIES: All species of Ash, Eastern Hemlock



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