Yarmouth Tree Advisory Committee List of Preferred Trees

The Tree Advisory Committee has compiled the following list of preferred trees in collaboration with the Wild Seed Project, a local nonprofit organization that promotes rewilding efforts in Northeast landscapes.

Most of these trees are native to Maine or the Northeast. The flowers and foliage of these trees support pollinating insects, their fruits and seeds nourish wildlife, and their trunks and branches provide structure and habitat throughout the year. Planting a wide variety of native trees can help ensure a future with cleaner air and water, a greener and more resilient town with more abundant songbirds and other wildlife. Including diverse species helps mitigate loss to pests and diseases.

To help in choosing the most appropriate species for a particular site, trees are grouped by height. Other important considerations are the light, soil and moisture conditions as well as tolerance of salt. Please consult the Tree Advisory Committee for more information and advice on tree selection.

TALL TREES (50 to 85 feet)

Native

- Red maple (Acer rubrum)
- Sugar maple (Acer saccharum)
- Sweet birch (Betula lenta)
- Tulip tree (Liriodendron tulipifera)
- Cucumber magnolia (Magnolia acuminata)
- Swamp white oak (Quercus bicolor)
- American elm (Ulmus americana) Recommended cultivars for resistance to Dutch elm disease include 'Princeton 'and 'Prairie Expedition'
- Shagbark hickory (Carva ovata)
- Butternut (Juglans cinerea)
- American sycamore (Platanus occidentalis)
- Basswood/American linden (Tilia americana)
- Hackberry (Celtis occidentalis)
- Sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua)

Non-native

- Indian Bean Tree (Catalpa speciosa)
- Kentucky coffee tree (Gymnocladus dioicus)
- Maidenhair (Ginkgo biloba)
- Zelkova (Zelkova)

MEDIUM TREES (25 to 45 feet)

Native

Sassafras (Sassafras albidum)

- River birch (Betula nigra)
- American yellowwood (Cladrastis kentukea)
- Black tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica)
- Honey locust (Gleditsia triacanthos)
- American mountain-ash (Sorbus americana)
- Black cherry (Prunus serotina)
- Eastern red cedar (Juniperus virginiana)
- White spruce (Picea glauca)
- Arborvitae (Thuja occidentalis)
- Gray birch (Betula populifolia)
- Striped maple (Acer pensylvanicum)
- Black cherry (Prunus serotina)
- Quaking aspen (Populus tremuloides)
- Hophornbeam/Ironwood (Ostrya virginiana)

Non-native

Katsura (Cercidiphyllum japonica)

SMALL TREES (10 to 20 feet)

Native

- Shadbush/Serviceberry (Amelanchier canadensis, A. laevis, A. arborea)
- Coskspur hawthorn (Crataegus crus-galli)
- Beach plum (Prunus maritima)
- Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana)
- Redbud (Cercis canadensis)
- Flowering dogwood (Benthamidia florida)
- White fringetree (Chionanthus virginicus)
- Musclewood (Carpinus caroliniana)

Non-native

- Kousa dogwood (Cornus kousa or Benthamidia japonica)
- Cornelian cherry (Cornus mas)
- Flowering crabapple (Malus spp.)