

Street and Yard Trees for Saratoga Springs

(This is essentially an annotated version of the official City list of trees that DPW plants on City property and is also the official list found in the City Code that developers must plant at construction projects.)

The following trees are recommended for planting in the Saratoga Springs urban forest. However, they should not be considered interchangeable. Species differ by mature size and tolerance to site conditions such as sun exposure, soil conditions such as moisture, fertility, acidity and exposure to compaction, root zone dimensions and tolerance of road salt. Numerous cultivars are available for some popular species, while cultivars for others have yet to be provided. In making tree selections for a particular site, some research will be necessary to assure that the right tree is chosen. We recommend consulting a landscape professional.

Medium to Large Trees (plant wherever space allows; large trees provide far more benefits)

<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple ¹
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple ¹
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry
<i>Gingko biloba</i>	Gingko (male only)
<i>Gleditsia tricanthos v. inermis</i>	Thornless Honeylocust
<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Kentucky Coffeetree (male only)
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Poplar ²
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Tupelo ²
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hophornbeam
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	American Sycamore
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm (disease-resistant cultivars such as Princeton, Valley Forge)

Small Trees (Under Power Lines)

<i>Amelanchier species</i>	Serviceberry (aka Juneberry or Shadberry)
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Pagoda Dogwood
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood ¹
<i>Crataegus crus-galli v. inermis</i>	Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn
<i>Malus species</i>	Crabapple

¹ We strongly recommend avoiding maples for the next decade and instead planting other types of trees from the list. Over half of the trees in Saratoga's urban forest are maples. Such overreliance on a single genus risks devastation from some maple pest.

² Make sure your nursery is growing this tree species from a northern seed source to assure that it will survive cold winter temperatures.

Exotic Invasives - DO NOT PLANT

NEVER PLANT Norway maple (and its many cultivars, like Crimson King), Callery pear, Japanese tree lilac, Japanese barberry, or burning bush. These commonly planted non-native trees and shrubs reproduce in the wild and cause ecological damage to natural landscapes. A more complete list of invasive plants is found at: <http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=israt>.