

# TREE & SHRUB DESCRIPTIONS

**AMERICAN ARBOR VITAE (WHITE CEDAR)** – Can reach 6' in 10-12 years from a 3-year seedling. Evergreen foliage is scale-like and flat. Grows in well-drained soil and also does well in swampy areas and alkaline soil. Full or half-day sun. Pyramidal in growth and well suited for windbreaks planted 4' apart.

**AMERICAN BITTERSWEET** – 20' vigorous climbing vine that grows well in poor soils with full sun. A native plant with yellow-orange fruit used as wildlife food source.

**AMERICAN CRANBERRY** – When mature, an 8-12' multi-stemmed shrub, clusters of white flowers in May. Bright red fruit attracts birds Sept-Feb. Good for jelly. Wetland planting, screen or wildlife.

**AMERICAN MOUNTAIN ASH** – Smooth-barked tree reaches a height of 30' with leaves resembling sumac. White flowers from May to June in dense clusters measuring from 3 to 6" across. Flowers are followed by large, dense, showy clusters of bright-red berries about the size of peas, which give the tree a brilliant appearance. Prefers moist ground. Wildlife food source.

**ARROWWOOD** – 6-15' multi-stemmed, rounded native shrub. Creamy white flowers May to June. In late September it will produce a blue-black fruit that attracts birds. Adaptable to all soils and climates.

**BASSWOOD** – 60-100' large native tree with long trunk, low hung spreading branches forming a rounded crown. Deep moist fertile soils, but will grow on drier, heavier soils. Used by bees over others, produces a strongly flavored honey.

**BLACK CHERRY** – Grows up to 50' tall. Pendulous branched native tree with profuse white flowers in spring. Good fall color. Mature trunk has 'burnt potato-chip' bark exposing reddish underbark. The fruits are often used for wine and jelly. Grows best in rich, moist, well-drained soil and full sun.

**BUTTONBUSH** – Deciduous shrub with an open-rounded habit that grows 6-12' tall. Easily grown in moist, humus soils in full sun to part shade. Grows very well in wet soils, including flood conditions and shallow standing water. Tiny, tubular, 5-lobed, fragrant white flowers appear in dense, spherical, long-stalked flower heads in early to mid-summer. Long, projecting styles give the flower heads a distinctively pincushion-like appearance. Flower heads are very attractive to bees and butterflies. Native.

**CANAAN FIR** – Fragrant, flat greenish-blue needles with a silvery cast. Unlike most firs, will grow in variety of soil types. Otherwise, very similar to Balsam Fir and Fraser Fir. Native species.

**COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE** – Grows up to 100'. Will reach 6' in 8-9 years, starting with a 3-year seedling. Its stiff, silvery-blue to bluish-green needles are 1" long. A handsome tree in a single planting or as a dense colorful screen or windbreak spaced 6' apart. Well-drained soil with good moisture and full sun.

**DOUGLAS FIR** – A popular tree reaching 6' in 9-10 years, starting with a 3-year seedling. Short, flat, soft blue-green needles. Grows fast in moist, well-drained soils. Full sun. Poor in wet clay soil. Majestic native evergreen.

**ELDERBERRY** – 5-12' multi-stemmed native shrub. In mid-June it has white flowers and in mid-August it has purple fruit when ripe, eaten by many species of birds. Elderberry tolerates most soils and roadside conditions.

**JUNEBERRY** – Large shrub, excellent native. White flowers in late April, followed by sweet edible fruit in July. Tolerates full sun or partial shade, harsh climates and alkaline soils. Good wildlife food and erosion control.

**LILAC** – Grows up to 12' in a variety of moderately well to well-drained soils. Fast growing shrub that flowers in spring with fragrant clusters blooms 6-8" long. Can be used as a specimen, screen, or hedge plant, planted 2-4' apart. Grows best in full sun. Non-Native.

**MYRTLE** – Small, shiny evergreen leaves with violet-blue flowers in the spring. Grows well in shade or sun. Valuable to cover hard-to-mow banks or under trees. Plant 1' apart. Very hardy. Non-Native.

**NATIVE WHITE BIRCH** – Grows up to 50' tall. Open green foliage. Grows best in cool, moist locations. Tolerates fairly wet locations (along water). Pendulous, graceful branches and snow-white bark. Bark turns white in 4-6 years. Plant 3-4 seedlings together to create clump effect.

**NANNYBERRY** – A multiple stemmed perennial native shrub with conspicuous red fruit that grows in moderately well drained soils and tolerates shade. White flowers bloom in late spring.

**PACHYSANDRA** – Evergreen groundcover with alternating leaves 4" long. Flowers and fruit are inconspicuous. Plant root cuttings 1' apart for rapid growth of dense cover. Use in borders, under trees and shrubs, and as a lawn substitute in non-traffic areas. Grows in a variety of soils. Excellent shade tolerance. Does not grow well in full sun. Native species.

**RED CHOKEBERRY** – A native upright, spreading, suckering, multi-stemmed shrub with green glossy leaves in summer and orange and red leaves in fall. Full sun to partial shade and tolerates wet soils.

**RED OAK** – A large symmetrical native tree, 60-70'. Acorn cup flat and saucer-like. Tolerates full sun and polluted environments. Sandy soils.

**RED PINE** – Grows up to 85' tall. Flexible, dark green needles in 2's. Grows best in moderately well drained soils. Native.

**SAND CHERRY** – 4-6' high/wide native shrub. Gray-green leaves, white flowers and sweet black fruit in the summer. Tolerates hot, dry conditions.

**SASSAFRAS** – An aromatic native tree with mitten shaped leaves, grows to height of 50'. Produces small bluish berries and showy yellow flowers.

**SILVER MAPLE** – 50-70' fast growing upright native tree with spreading branches. Leaves deeply five-lobed. Excellent source of shade.

**SPICEBUSH** – 6-17' high native shrub with similar spread, producing flowers March-April. Tea can be made from the leaves and twigs. Grows best in well-drained, moist soils in full sun or partial shade.

**SUGAR MAPLE** – The official New York State Tree. Grows up to 75'. Offers good shade in the summer and brilliant scarlet-orange foliage in the autumn. Provides maple sugar products. Thrives in well-drained soil. Full sun, but will tolerate some shade.

**SYCAMORE** – Very fast growing native hardwood that is long lived and reaches 100-140' in height. Best on river bottoms or low slopes. Good on most sites except swamps or dry sand hills. Requires direct sunlight.

**TAG ALDER** – An upright deciduous native tree with double-toothed leaves and fruit that resembles 1" pinecones. Grows 20-30' and thrives along streamside and other moist sites.

**THORNLESS HONEY LOCUST** – Fast growing shade tree with fragrant golden-yellow flowers that bloom May-June. Tolerant of salt, poor air quality and various soil conditions. Native.

**TULIP TREE** – A tall, straight, 70-90' fast growing native tree with unique notched-tip, four pointed leaves. Flowers May-June with greenish-yellow petals. Full sun, well-drained soil.

**WHITE FLOWERING DOGWOOD** – Grows 20-30'. Beautiful leaf color in the fall and showy white flowers April-May. Red fruit - late Dec. Native.

**WHITE OAK** – A tall, noble native tree that grows well in most soil types. Acorns provide for an important and diverse wildlife food source.

**WHITE SPRUCE** – Grows up to 90' tall reaching 6' in 7-8 years beginning with a 3-year seedling. Its stiff needles are light bluish-green, usually <1" long. Thrives in full sun and well-drained soil. Extremely hardy and will live where other varieties will not. Native.

**WITCH-HAZEL** – 15-30' spreading shrub or small tree. Yellow fragrant flowers that last until late autumn. Native plant; will grow in wet, shady areas as well as in the open sun. Wildlife food source.