

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) - While the Red Maple cultivars all have their special features, you simply can't go wrong with the real thing – Indiana's native Red Maple. Red Maple makes an excellent landscape tree with its red fruits in the spring and its red fall leaf color in the fall. And those winged fruits are an excellent food source for a variety of wildlife. It is considered to be a medium to large tree reaching heights of 90'. Red Maples are fast growing and will do well on almost any site, although it's considered susceptible to drought. The Red Maple will do best in a full sun site but will tolerate some shade. **3 gal. – up to 4' tall**

Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) - The Sugar Maple, sometimes referred to as a hard maple, is one of the largest and more important of the hardwood trees of the U.S. Known for its timber value and maple syrup producing capabilities, the Sugar Maple may just be one of America's most loved trees. The Sugar Maple is a landscape standout and is unparalleled in park and yard environments where it provides abundant shade and fall beauty (yellow, burnt orange or red). It can be planted in a variety of soils (grows best in deep, well drained soils), in both full sun and partial shade. But you must allow it plenty of room to grow with its 60 to 75 feet height and 40 to 50 feet mature spread. **3 gal. up to 4 ft. tall.**

Ohio Buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*) - The Ohio Buckeye is a common tree in the Midwest and the state tree of Ohio. In Indianapolis, during a tree inventory in the early 1900's, the Ohio Buckeye made up about 6% of the mixed climax forests of the county, sometimes ranking second in importance only to beech in some areas. It is a small to medium tree reaching about 40 feet in height. The Ohio Buckeye grows well in full sun to part shade and is moderately tolerant of poorly drained sites. It gets its name from Native Americans who called the fruit of the tree "hetuck" meaning eye-of-the buck in reference to the shiny dark brown fruit with a large light colored spot on each nut resembling a buck white-tailed deer's eye. **1 gal. Up to—6-12" tall**

Allegheny Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*) - The Allegheny Serviceberry is a small (15-25 ft. tall) native tree for all seasons and it is perfect for naturalistic plantings. In April and May it has beautiful white flower clusters that are delicately scented and provide nectar for the season's early bees and butterflies. In mid-summer its fruits ripen to a violet pink, aging to deep blue purple when fully ripe. The sweet juicy fruits are edible by man and wildlife alike. And in the fall, the leaves of the this serviceberry turn a variety of colors, brilliant orange, yellows and reds. This serviceberry will grow in sun, partial sun and shade, and in a variety of soils but it prefers moist areas and is sensitive to drought. Allegheny Serviceberry makes an attractive understory tree for lawns, shrub borders, woodland margins or native plant areas. **3 gal - up to 6' tall.**

Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*) - Black Chokeberry is a small (3' to 6') deciduous shrub that is found naturally in the Eastern US. It will grow on just about all sites, dry to wet, clay to sandy. It is picky about sunlight though, preferring full sunlight to slight shade. In late summer, the lustrous green foliage and the glossy pendulous clusters of black fruits put on a worthy display. Chokeberries are also known for their outstanding fall color, showing yellow, orange, bright red and deep scarlet hues. **1 gal- up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 4' tall.**

River Birch (*Betula nigra*) - While this native river birch is found primarily in south-western Indiana, it is widely planted as an ornamental. It is a fast growing tree, reaching 40-80' in height, often forked and leaning in nature with weeping branches and a irregular, spreading crown. Its shiny, dark green leaves turn dull yellow in the fall and the tree has peeling salmon pink bark. Although this is a tree adapted to wet areas, it is very tolerant of dryer sites and does well in our hot dry summers. **3 gal—up to 5' tall**

Shellbark Hickory (*Carya laciniosa*) - As Sally Weeks says in her book, *Native Trees of Indiana – Identification, Wildlife Values and Landscaping Uses*, “Everything about this tree is big,” The leaves (compound) are up to 2 feet in length, its mature height can be up to 120 feet tall and its fruit is the largest of all hickory nuts, often the size of a small apple. Shellbark Hickory grows best in wetter areas as it is strictly a bottom land tree species and does not thrive in heavy clay soils. This hickory species is very shade tolerant but grows best in partial shade. **1 gal. up to 2 ft. tall; 3 gal. up to 8 ft. tall**

Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*) - Shagbark is a common hickory out of the 13 hickory species found in the Midwest. Although some may consider the shedding plates of bark and hickory nuts messy, it is an impressive tree with its shaggy appearance, growing to about 80 feet in height and reaching a ripe old age of 250 years. The Shagbark Hickory is also an excellent wildlife habitat tree for its production of hickory nuts and shedding bark which often provides resting and maternity sites for the endangered Indiana bat. The Shagbark Hickory is best grown on dry sites and in sun to part shade light conditions. **1 gal—up to 12” tall; 3 gal—up to 6” tall**

Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) - **Buttonbush** is a multi-branched, spreading native wetland shrub reaching 12-20 feet in height, with white flower balls and shiny green leaves. This shrub is a favorite food source for ducks and is excellent for wetland restoration, erosion control and riparian buffers. Best adapted to banks and swamps with saturated soil and full sun. **1 gal—up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 4' tall.**

Redbud (*Cercis Canadensis*) - The flowers of the Redbud are probably the first sign of spring in many people's minds with its profuse pink flowers, making it a popular ornamental tree. It is a short-trunked, small native tree with a rounded crown reaching 30 feet in height. The Red Bud is fast growing, does well on a variety of sites and is tolerant of some shade. **1 gal- up to 4' tall; 3 gal- up to 5' tall.**

Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) – A wet adapted small to medium sized native shrub reaching 9 feet in height. Silky Dogwood is very shade tolerant, grows in a variety of soils and while it does best in moist to wet conditions, it will adapt and grow well in drier areas. Colorful summer fruits offer its best ornamental and wildlife asset, while in winter its thin twigs cast a reddish-purple hue to the landscape. Its growth habit at maturity becomes a spreading, sprawling, open and loose collection of mature branches and vigorous suckers, creating excellent wildlife habitat. It is also an excellent shrub for stream bank erosion control. Silky Dogwood produces small white flowers in spring, blue-black fruits in mid-summer and its leaves vary from green to chartreuse to reddish – yellow, orange or purple in the fall. **1 gal- up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 4' tall.**

Grey Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*) - The Grey Dogwood is a thickly branched, slow growing shrub seldom more than 6' high. It grows in full sun to light shade and in a variety of soils, including wet areas but does best in well-drained areas. This shrub produces attractive 2-3" clusters of creamy white flowers in late spring. The mature fruit are white and are borne on red pedicels. The pedicels remain and provide some late summer color after the fruit is eaten by birds. Fall coloration is a deep maroon **1 gal—up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 4' tall.**

Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) - Named for its bright red twigs, this multiple branched shrub is an ideal plant for wet areas. Stream-banks, wetland areas and other moist soil areas are the best sites for Red Osier Dogwood and it grows well in full sun or partial shade. This shrub is also an ideal plant for wildlife habitat as it provides food (white fruits) for a wide variety of birds and mammals as well as cover when grown in thickets. Depending on conditions and variety, Red Osier Dogwood grows anywhere from 3 to 19 feet in height. **1 gal- up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 4' tall.**

Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) - *Diospyros*, when freely translated from Greek, means "food for the gods". This species produces one of the largest fleshy fruits of any Native North American tree and its pulp is used to make numerous desserts. Persimmon is medium-sized tree reaching about 60' in height. Persimmon adds interest to the landscape with its bright yellow fall color and unusual "alligator hide" blocky bark. This tree prefers to be grown in full sunlight. Persimmon is valued as an ornamental because of its hardiness, adaptability to a wide range of soils and climates, its lustrous leaves, its abundant crop of fruits and its immunity from disease and insects. If you do not collect and eat the fruits, various species of urban and suburban wildlife will certainly enjoy them. **3 gal—up to 5' tall.**

American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) - Unlike most other hardwood trees the American Beech retains its thin, smooth light grey bark into its mature years, which makes for easy identification. While this tree is commonly found in bottom land areas, it will thrive in any site with adequate soil moisture. American Beech produces distinctive triangular shaped nuts that are eaten by people and are an important food for wildlife. And, as the tree matures, it is cavity-prone which makes the American Beech a home for a wide variety of wildlife. Despite having cavities during its later years, this tree is very long lived, up to 400 years. American Beech is very shade tolerant. **1 gal—up to 24" tall.**

American Witch-Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) - A native woody perennial, sometimes defined as a tree, sometimes as a shrub, grows to a height of 15 feet. Delicate flowers, with their 4-8 strap-like yellow petals, bloom in autumn and early winter. No other hardy woody plant can match the magical flower display of the Witch-hazel. Highly fragrant and extremely durable, blooming over a long period. Although winter is Witch-Hazel's time to shine, its leaves display good medium to dark green color during the growing season and often change to a spectacular display of golden yellow leaves in autumn. Plant Witch-Hazel in moist, well-drained soil in areas of sun or partial shade. It grows into an attractive tree with a beautiful branching habit. **3 gal—up to 3' tall.**

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) - As a native of Eastern United States, Spicebush is found naturally from Maine to Florida and west from Michigan to Texas. It is a hardy and fast growing shrub (6-12' tall) that grows best in wet to moist shaded areas but will tolerate more sunny and drier conditions as well. Spicebush is one of the first plants to flower in late winter and has been called the “forsythia of the wilds” due to its early flowering habit. It produces glossy red fruits that wildlife will eat and produces a golden yellow leaf color in the fall. This shrub has a long history of medicinal and culinary uses with its aromatic bark, branches, fruits and leaves and is used to make tea, as a spice and was used in pioneer days to reduce fever, relieve colds and cure dysentery. **1 gal—up to 3' tall; 3 gal—up to 3' tall**

Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) -- Sweetgum is commonly planted throughout the Midwest and highly prized for its splendid fall colors of purple, red, orange, and yellow. It is a large tree at maturity and requires a large lawn, fairly rapidly providing dense shade. Sweetgum can attain heights of more than 120 feet with a diameter of 5 feet and live a ripe old age of 400 years. While it grows best in wetter areas, Sweetgum grows well in a variety of sites. It requires full sun. Sweetgum produces a woody and spiny fruit ball that some think are a nuisance when they fall to the ground. **3 gal—up to 5 tall.**

Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) - An underrated ornamental and landscape tree, the Black Gum has spectacular fall color, can be grown almost anywhere, and has been in cultivation since 1750. It is also considered one of the best honey producing trees in the world. Black Gum is a small to medium size tree reaching 30 to 50 feet in height and is long-lived, often reaching 500 years of age. Fall color is a bright scarlet. While Black Gum can be grown under a variety of light conditions and soil types (wet to dry), it does best in full sun light and with a slightly acid soil pH. ; **3 gal—up to 5' tall**

Common Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolia*) –Common Ninebark is a medium to large (5 -10 ft. in height at maturity) attractive shrub covered with 2 inch clusters of small white flowers in May and June with seed pods later in the summer. The flowers are a good nectar source for butterflies and the seeds are eaten by birds. The common name comes from the bark, which continually molts in thin strips, each time exposing a new layer of bark, as if it had “nine lives”. This shrub is adaptable to a variety of sites, both dry and wet, will grow well in full sun to partial shade areas and in the compacted soils of urban areas. **1 gal—up to 24” tall; 3 gal- up to 3' tall.**

American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) – Sycamore is a great American tree in more ways than one. It is one of the largest deciduous trees in North America, reaching to 100' tall, has been known to reach up to 40' feet in circumference, and can live to a ripe old age of 600 years. The American Sycamore also grows where many trees will not, because it is adapted to wet areas along floodplains of rivers and streams. It is also a fast growing tree that can offer abundant shade in relatively short amount of time. A 20 year old tree can approach 70 feet in height. The American Sycamore is also a good wildlife habitat tree in that it develops tree cavities as it gets older, providing shelter and nest sites for a large variety of wildlife. While this tree is considered by some to be a “messy” urban landscape tree by shedding leaves, small limbs and bark all year long, the American Sycamore is well suited to those parts of your landscape that can be left more natural and those areas that have wet soils situated along ditches, streams, and around lakes and retention ponds. It is also tolerant of urban compacted soils and can withstand drought. The American Sycamore is intolerant of shade. **3 gal—up to 5' tall.**

American Plum (*Prunus americana*) - The wild plum is a native tall shrub to small tree which is a thorny, winter hardy and naturally thicket-forming plant which produces excellent nesting and protective cover for wildlife. It can be used for naturalizing and for an unused part of your yard or as a border planting and can be pruned to become a small tree. The nearly 1 inch wide white flowers and clusters produce a beautiful early spring display before most other trees and shrubs are blooming. And of course plums can be used for preserves and jellies. The American Plum may reach 20 feet tall and just about as wide (as an individual specimen) and can be planted on a variety of soils. Grows best on moist, well-drained areas in full sun. **3 gal. – up to 5' tall.**

Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) - Black cherry is a rapidly growing woodland tree common throughout Indiana. It is known for its beautiful, fine-grained orange-brown to mahogany-colored heartwood, second only to Black Walnut for making solid wood furniture, interior trim and high-quality veneer. The fruits of the Black Cherry are relished by birds and mammals. It is a medium sized tree, with a mature height of nearly 70 feet. The Black Cherry can only be grown successfully in full sun and the tree grows best in rich, moist, well-drained soils. Fall foliage is a subdued mixture of green, yellow, and orange hues. **3 gal-up to 5' tall.**

White Oak (*Quercus alba*) - White Oak is a large tree that can attain heights of 100 feet in height and a crown spread of up to 50 feet. It makes an excellent landscape and shade tree because of its broad round crown, dense foliage and purplish-red to violet-purple fall color – if you can give it room to grow. And the White Oak is also an excellent wildlife habitat plant as it produces readily consumed acorns. Grow this tree in most dry to moist soils and sunny to partial shade light conditions. **1 gal—up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 4' tall**

Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*) – This medium size native tree grows to 60-70 feet heights and has a narrow crown with often drooping branches. The foliage turns brown or red in autumn. Swamp White Oak is wet area adapted but grows any where, and will tolerate some shade. **1 gal- up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 5'**

Shingle Oak (*Quercus imbricaria*) - Medium to large native hardwood tree reaching 50-60+ feet. Medium growth rate. Considered a good ornamental, shade, park and golf course tree. Attracts wildlife. Spreads wide, can be used for screens and windbreaks. Full sun. Adapts to poor, dry, compacted soils, urban tolerant. Cold hardy. Shiny dark green oblong, non-lobed leaves, yellow-brown in autumn. **3 gal—up to 5' tall.**

Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) – Bur Oak is a large, native tree reaching 50-80 feet. A large space is needed in the landscape to accommodate the widely spreading form of this tree. It is tolerant of drought and the urban environment as well as being the most winter hardy of all of the oaks. Wet area adapted. Grows in moist and dry soils and needs full sun. **1 gal—up to 3' tall; 3 gal- up to 5' tall**

Chinquapin Oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*) - A large native hardwood of 50 to 90 feet with a rounded dense crown. The Chinquapin Oak produces one of the most desirable acorns consumed by wildlife. In autumn, yellow-green toothed simple leaves turn a golden yellow. This oak is a great ornamental, wildlife, and shade tree. This tree requires full sun and well-drained soil. One of the most drought tolerant oaks. **3 gal— up to 5' tall.**

Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) – This is a fast-growing, large native oak which grows 60-90 feet in height. Open grown trees have broad, symmetrical, low crowns. The leaves usually turn red in the fall. The Red Oak grows well in moist, loamy, sandy, rocky & clay soils; it transplants easily and is hardy in city conditions. A full sun planting site is necessary. **3 gal— up to 5' tall**

Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*) - The Shumard Oak is a large tree at maturity and some consider it to be the largest oak in the eastern US. It has been measured at 200 feet tall and 8 feet in diameter but this species usually matures at 60 to 80 feet in the Midwest. It is a fast growing oak species and will tolerate a wide variety of sites. Although it is considered a bottom-land species (will tolerant wet sites), it will do well on more upland sites and is considered drought tolerant, but must be grown in full sunlight. It is an excellent yard tree as long as it has enough room to grow and it is tolerant of urban conditions. Shumard Oak produces a large crop of large sized acorns every 2-3 years that are readily eaten by a variety of wildlife. **3 gal- up to 5' tall**

American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) - This native shrub is grown for its fruit, its use for wildlife habitat and as a natural landscaping plant. American Elderberry requires full sun, is both drought and cold tolerant, and adapts to almost any soil type and most drainage conditions. It grows 6 to 12 feet high in an oval or rounded shape. Elderberry's large and showy white flower clusters are generally 6 to 10 inches in diameter and have a nice fragrance. The deep purple to black berries ripen in early August to late September and are a treat for birds, and can be used in jellies, jam or wine. **3 gal-up to 3' tall.**

Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*) - Coralberry is an interesting native small shrub that has great landscaping value. It is hardy, will grow in almost any soil, rarely grows over 4 feet in height, has hot pink fruit that last all winter, and the plants arching stems and rounded form make this plant an excellent border plant.

Coralberry does best in full sun sites. **3 gal. – up to 3’ tall.**

Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) - This is a large, needle-leaved deciduous native tree reaching 100-120 feet and is the longest-living tree in the Eastern U.S., sometimes reaching 1,000 years of age. Its soft yellow-green needles turn reddish brown in the fall. Bald Cypress is known for its resistance to decay and its “cypress knees” which often project from submerged roots when grown in extremely wet sites. While it is very tolerant of wet sites, the best growth is on moist soils, that are moderately well-drained, and are in full sun. **3 gal—up to 4’ tall.**

Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) - Arrowwood Viburnum is a dense upright native shrub that reaches 10 feet high and has white 2-4 inch flowers in late May. This shrub has bluish-black fruit in late September. Leaves are dark green and turn yellow to purple-red in the fall. It is tolerant of sun and shade and grows best in well-drained moist soils. **3 gal-up to 3’ tall**

Nannyberry Viburnum (*Virburnum lentago*) -Viburnums are shrubs or small trees (up to 20’) with attractive shiny foliage, red fall color, flowers and fruit. This native species, depending on how it is pruned, can be used as a specimen plant, small tree, shrub border, hedge or screen, or in naturalized areas. It grows best in rich moist soil and in full sun or partial shade, but will tolerate full shade or drier conditions. It is a very durable and adaptable plant. In late spring, Nannyberry produces small white flowers in flat-topped clusters and edible fruits in August that provide food for birds. If allowed to grow as a shrub, this plant will provide cover and nesting habitat for wildlife. **3 gal— up to 4’ tall.**

Blackhaw Viburnum (*Viburnum prunifolium*) - This is a small tree or a multi-stemmed shrub with impressive dark green foliage in the summer months changing in the autumn to a purple, rich red burgundy color which is quite showy. The pretty flowers are a creamy white and bloom in early May, which are followed by a droopy blue-black edible fruit. This plant grows 12’ – 15’ high with an 8’ – 12’ spread. It adapts to many soils and does well in sun or partial shade. This shrub is very hardy and easy to grow **3 gal—up to 3’ tall.**

For more information on trees and shrubs, the district recommends two excellent books: (1) Native Trees of Indiana – Identification, Wildlife Values and Landscaping Use by Sally S. Weeks, Harmon P. Weeks, Jr. and George R. Parker and (2) Shrubs and Woody Vines of Indiana and the Midwest – Identification, Wildlife Values and Landscaping Use by Sally S. Weeks and Harmon P. Weeks, Jr.. Both books are published by Purdue University Press, www.thepress.purdue.edu

For information on the planting and care of trees and shrubs, the district recommends two publications: Your Yard, Your Trees – A Homeowners Guide and Your Yard, Your Shrubs – A Homeowners Guide. Both publications are available from the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District www.marionswcd.org