



Shade Trees for Iowa – Ash Alternatives

This document lists several shade tree selections suitable for the Iowa landscape. Nursery and landscape professionals have eliminated green, white, black, pumpkin, and blue ash from their inventories and designs since they are susceptible to the emerald ash borer, which kills ash trees. This destructive pest has been found in several states in the upper Midwest.

While not all-inclusive, this list does describe many useful species, many which are also pest-resistant. Not all trees appearing on this list will thrive in every landscape situation. Great care must be taken to carefully match trees to sites (including above- and below-ground spatial and environmental constraints) and to complement existing species so that a diverse tree canopy will be maintained. *A healthy and diverse tree population is the best defense against current and future tree pests.*

Deciduous Shade Trees	Height/Width	Growth Habit
Alder		
Manchurian alder – <i>Alnus hirsuta</i> ‘Harbin’ (Prairie Horizon ®)	40 feet/30 feet	Upright
Amur maackia – <i>Maackia amurensis</i>	25 feet/25 feet	Upright spreading
Baldcypresses		
Baldcypress – <i>Taxodium distichum</i> ‘Mickelson’ (Shawnee Brave ®) ‘JFS-SGPN’ (Green Whisper ™)	55 feet/20 feet 55 feet/30 feet	Narrow pyramid Pyramidal
Birches		
Asian white birch – <i>Betula platyphylla</i> ‘VerDale’ (Prairie Vision)	35 feet/30 feet	Upright oval
Gray birch – <i>Betula populifolia</i> ‘Whitespire Sr’	40 feet/25 feet	Pyramidal oval
River birch – <i>Betula nigra</i> ‘Cully’ (Heritage ®)	45 feet/30 feet	Oval
Whitebarked Himalayan birch – <i>Betula utilis</i> ‘Madison’ (White Satin ™)	35 feet/20 feet	Broadly pyramidal

Deciduous Shade Trees	Height/Width	Growth Habit
Black gum/Black tupelo – <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	35 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal spreading
Coffeetree		
Kentucky coffeetree – <i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>		
‘Espresso’	50 feet/30 feet	Oval
Cork trees		
Cork tree – <i>Phellodendron</i> species		
‘Longnecker’ (Eye Stopper™)	40 feet/35 feet	Rounded
‘His Majesty’	40 feet/35 feet	Vase-shaped
Elms		
American elm – <i>Ulmus americana</i>		
‘Jefferson’	70 feet/50 feet	Vase-shaped
‘Princeton’	60 feet/40 feet	Vase-shaped
‘Lewis & Clark’ (Prairie Expedition™)	60 feet/50 feet	Umbrella-shaped
‘New Harmony’	70 feet/70 feet	Vase-shaped
‘Valley Forge’	70 feet/70 feet	Vase-shaped
Asian Elm Cultivars and Hybrids		
‘Morton’ (Accolade™)	70 feet/60 feet	Vase-shaped
‘Morton Glossy’ (Triumph™)	55 feet/45 feet	Vase-shaped
‘New Horizon’	70 feet/70 feet	Upright oval
‘Prospector’	40 feet/30 feet	Vase-shaped
‘Discovery’	50 feet/40 feet	Vase-shaped
European and Eurasian Hybrids		
‘Patriot’	50 feet/40 feet	Stiff vase-shaped
Filbert		
Turkish filbert – <i>Corylus colurna</i>	40 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
Ginkgo		
Ginkgo – <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>		
‘Autumn Gold’	45 feet/35 feet	Broadly pyramidal
‘Halka’	45 feet/40 feet	Oval
‘Magyar’	60 feet/40 feet	Upright oval
‘PNI 2720’ (Princeton Sentry®)	40 feet/15 feet	Narrow pyramidal
‘JFS-UGA2’ (Golden Colonnade®)	45 feet/25 feet	Narrow oval
‘The President’ (Presidential Gold®)	50 feet/40 feet	Broadly pyramidal
Hackberries		
Hackberry – <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>		
‘JFS-KSU1’ (Prairie Sentinel™)	45 feet/12 feet	Columnar
‘Chicagoland’	50 feet/40 feet	Broadly pyramidal
‘Prairie Pride’	50 feet/40 feet	Oval

Deciduous Shade Trees	Height/Width	Growth Habit
Honeylocusts		
Honeylocust – <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i>		
'Draves' (Street Keeper™)	45 feet/20 feet	Narrow upright
'Harve' (Northern Acclaim™)	45 feet/35 feet	Upright spreading
'Skycole' (Skyline®)	50 feet/35 feet	Pyramidal
Hophornbeam		
American hophornbeam – <i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	40 feet/25 feet	Upright oval
Horsechestnuts		
Common horsechestnut – <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>		
'Baumannii'	50 feet/40 feet	Broadly oval
Red horsechestnut – <i>Aeculus x carnea</i>		
'Briotii'	30 feet/35 feet	Round
'Fort McNair'	30 feet/30 feet	Round
Lindens		
American linden – <i>Tilia Americana</i>		
'Boulevard'	60 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
'Continental Appeal'	50 feet/30 feet	Narrow oval
'Wandell' (Legend®)	40 feet/30 feet	Broad pyramidal
'McKSentry' (American Sentry®)	45 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
'Lincoln'	35 feet/25 feet	Pyramidal
'Redmond'	50 feet/35 feet	Pyramidal
Hybrid Linden – <i>Tilia x flavescens (americana x cordata)</i>		
'Glenleven'	50 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
Littleleaf linden – <i>Tilia cordata</i>		
'Baileyi' (Shamrock®)	40 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
'Corzam' (Corinthian®)	45 feet/15 feet	Narrow pyramidal
'Ronald' (Norlin™)	40 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
Mongolian linden – <i>Tilia mongolica</i>		
'Harvest Gold'	30-40 feet/25-30 feet	Upright oval
Silver linden – <i>Tilia tomentosa</i>		
'PNI 6051' (Green Mountain®)	45 feet/35 feet	Broad pyramidal
'Sterling'	45 feet/35 feet	Broad pyramidal
Magnolias		
Cucumbertree – <i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	50-80 feet/40-60 feet	Upright oval

Deciduous Shade Trees

Maples

	Height/Width	Growth Habit
Black maple – <i>Acer nigrum</i>	60 feet/60 feet	Round spreading
Freeman maple – <i>Acer x freemanii</i>		
‘Jeffersred’ (Autumn Blaze ®)	50 feet/45 feet	Broadly oval
‘DTR 102’ (Autumn Fantasy ®)	40 feet/30 feet	Broadly oval
‘Marmo’	50 feet/30 feet	Upright oval
‘Bailston’ (Matador ™)	40 feet/30 feet	Upright oval
‘Morgan’ (‘Indian Summer’)	45 feet/40 feet	Rounded
‘Sienna’ (Sienna Glen ®)	45 feet/35 feet	Pyramidal
‘UMNAF#1’ (Firefall ™)	50 feet/30 feet	Upright oval
Hybrid maple – <i>Acer truncatum x platanoides</i>		
‘Warrenred’ (Pacific Sunset ®)	30 feet/25 feet	Upright spreading
‘JFS-KW202’ (Crimson Sunset ™)	35 feet/25 feet	Upright oval
Miyabe maple – <i>Acer miyabei</i>		
‘Morton’ (State Street ™)	45 feet/30 feet	Upright oval
Red maple – <i>Acer rubrum</i>		
‘Bailcraig’ (Scarlet Jewell ™)	50 feet/30 feet	Upright
‘Franksred’ (Red Sunset ®)	45 feet/35 feet	Upright oval
‘Magnificent Magenta’ (Burgundy Belle ®)	50 feet/40 feet	Oval
‘Frank Jr.’ (Redpointe ™)	45 feet/30 feet	Pyramidal
‘New World’	40 feet/20 feet	Narrow oval
‘Polara’ (Rubyfrost ™)	45 feet/40 feet	Broadly oval
‘Somerset’	45 feet/35 feet	Broadly oval
Sugar maple – <i>Acer saccharum</i>		
‘Bailsta’ (Fall Fiesta ™)	50 feet/50 feet	Upright rounded
‘Commemoration’	50 feet/35 feet	Oval rounded
‘Legacy’	50 feet/35 feet	Oval
‘Morton’ (Crescendo ™)	40 feet/30 feet	Broadly oval
‘Green Mountain’	45 feet/35 feet	Broadly oval

Planetrees

London planetree – <i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>		
‘Bloodgood’	50 feet/40 feet	Broadly pyramidal
‘Morton Circle’ (Exclamation ™)	55 feet/35 feet	Upright pyramidal

Deciduous Shade Trees

Oaks

	Height/Width	Growth Habit
Bur oak – <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	50-80 feet/40-80 feet	Spreading
‘JFS-KW3’ (Urban Pinnacle™)	55 feet/25 feet	Narrow pyramidal
Chinkapin Oak – <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	45 feet/45 feet	Round
English/white oak – <i>Quercus bimundorum</i>		
‘Crimschmidt’ (Crimson Spire™)	45 feet/15 feet	Columnar
‘Midwest’ (Prairie Stature™)	50 feet/40 feet	Broadly pyramidal
Hybrid oak – <i>Quercus x</i>		
‘Long’ (Regal Prince®)	45 feet/18 feet	Narrow Oval
Red oak – <i>Quercus rubra</i>	60-75 feet/60 feet	Spreading
Shingle oak – <i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	50 feet/40 feet	Broadly oval
Swamp white oak – <i>Quercus bicolor</i>	60 feet/60 feet	Round
White oak – <i>Quercus alba</i>	50-70 feet/40-80 feet	Spreading

Sweetgums

Sweetgum – <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>		
‘Clydesform; (Emerald Sentinel®)	30 feet/12 feet	Narrow pyramid
‘Moraine’	40 feet/25 feet	Pyramidal

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