

SPECIES DESCRIPTION GUIDE 2025

Type	Species	Soil Preference	Drought Tolerance	Sun light	Height (feet)	Characteristics
Shrubs						
	Aroniaberry (McKenzie)	Wet-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full-Part	4-8	White flowers, dark purple fruit clusters
	Bladdernut	Moist-Well Drained	Moderate	Part-Shade	6-16	White spring flowers, unique seed pods
	Dogwood, Redosier	Loamy, Wet - Moist	Poor	Full-Part	4-10	Tolerates wet sites, rapid growth, attractive in winter
	Elderberry, American	Adaptable	Moderate	Full-Part	5-12	White flowers, dark purple fruit clusters
	Hazelnut, American	Loamy, Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full-Part	4-12	Shrub border, edible 1/2 inch nuts, thicket forming
	Honeysuckle, Dwarf Bush	Adaptable	Tolerant	Full-Part	3-4	Yellow summer flowers, Red fall color, bank stability
	Lilac, Common Purple	Adaptable	Tolerant	Full-Part	8-15	Shrub border/screen planting, Suckers, Fragrant flowers
	Nannyberry	Moist-Well Drained	Moderate	Full-Part	12-15	White spring flowers, maroon/red fall color
	Rose, Meadow	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full-Part	3-6	Deep pink summer flowers, bright red hips
Small Deciduous						
	Apricot	Well Drained	Moderate	Full	12-25	White/pink spring flowers, abundant late summer fruit
	Dogwood, Pagoda	Moist-Well Drained	Moderate	Full-Shade	12-25	White spring blooms, moist understory, red fall color
	Hawthorn, Washington	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full-Part	20-30	Large white spring blooms, persistence showy fruit
	Hoptree, Common	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Part-Shade	15-20	Unique waferlike seeds, nectar attracts butterflies
	Mountain Ash, Showy	Loamy, Moist-Well Drained	Poor	Sun-Shade	10-30	White spring flowers, bright red persistent fruit
Large Deciduous						
	Birch, Paper	Moist-Well Drained	Moderate	Full	60-80	Smooth, white-papery bark, yellow fall foliage
	Cherry, Black	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full	50-90	Prolific spring flowers, small dark fall fruit
	Cottonwood, Male only	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full	80-120	Very tall, fast growing, yellow fall color
	Oak, Black	Well Drained	Tolerant	Full	50-60	Acorns attract wildlife, red fall color
	Oak, White	Moist-Well Drained	Moderate	Full-Part	50-100	large crown, long lived, acorn producer
	Maple, Black	Moist-Well Drained	Poor	Full-Part	60-100	Similar to Sugar maple, dark bark, silky leaves
	Maple, Sugar	Loamy, Moist-Well Drained	Poor	Full-Part	60-100	Brilliant fall foliage, excellent shade tree, maple syrup
	Tuliptree	Loamy, Well Drained	Tolerant	Full-Part	60-100	Showy 'tulip' spring blooms, unique foliage, large stature
Coniferous						
	Fir, Balsam	Adaptable	Tolerant	Sun-Shade	50-75	Christmas tree, thermal cover, windbreaks
	Fir, Douglas	Loamy, Well Drained	Tolerant	Sun-Shade	40-80	Unique cones, blue-green, soft flat 1" needles
	Pine, Red	Sand-Loam, Well Drained	Tolerant	Full	60-100	MN State tree, wildlife value, 4-7 inch needles
	Pine, White	Sand-Loam, Moist-Dry	Poor	Full-Part	80-120	3-5 inch soft needles, largest MN conifer
	Spruce, 'Black Hills'	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full	30-60	Windbreaks, Christmas trees, dense dark green foliage
	Spruce, White	Moist-Well Drained	Tolerant	Full-Part	60-80	Windbreaks, 'up north' tree, extremely hardy