

## 2010 Plant Some Shade© Tree Descriptions

Shingle oak (*Quercus imbricaria*) Large native tree 50'-60' height and 50' spread at maturity, conical crown when young then grows more rounded, shiny-dark green leaves, russet-red fall color. Slow to medium growing as in all oaks but long lived and strong. Acorns cause less of a problem than other oaks. Prefers full sun. Likes well-drained moist sites but tolerates dry soils and city conditions. Native to Iowa. Fun fact: Typical oak leaves have lobes yet shingle oak leaves are willow-like.



Northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) Large, native tree that can reach 80' tall and 45' spread. One of Iowa's best trees for landscaping because it grows faster than other oaks. Superior branch strength. Grows on a wide variety of sites but prefers a sunny site with well-drained soils. Tolerates pollution and compacted soils. Symmetrical, rounded crown provides lots of shade. Fall colors include red, orange-red or reddish-brown. Fun fact: Important fall food supply for squirrels and other desirable wildlife.



Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) This Iowa native grows moderately fast and is well-suited to tough urban areas. Large shade tree grows to 70' tall and 50' spread with upright branches like elm trees. Prefers full sun yet tolerates partial shade. Rounded crown with light green leaves. Fun fact: Easily recognized year-round due to distinctive corky bark.



Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) Often called yellow poplar but not related to poplars. Magnificent large tree often 80'-100' height and 50' spread at maturity. Should not be planted in a small yard. Fast growing, deep wide spreading roots. Flowers are large, orange and green. Bright green leaves with profile shaped like tulips. Requires full sun. Fun fact: Close relative to showy magnolia trees.



European larch (*Larix decidua*) A rare surprise because this conifer is deciduous! Moderate growth rate reaching heights of 75' and 40' spread. Windfirm, relatively free of diseases. Prefers full sun. Leaves are narrow, 1" long in tufts spirally arranged on twigs. Upright cones are not numerous and less than 1 ½" long. Good shade tree for south or east side of home. Fun fact: Features change with each season. After other tree leaves have fallen in the fall the larch turns brilliant gold before shedding leaves.



Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*) Small native tree with rounded crown, showy white flowers and purple fruit. Often flowers before other tree leaves emerge. Fruit is highly prized by song birds. Moderate growth rate up to 25' tall and 20' spread. Does well in full sun or partial shade. Autumn colors include yellow-orange and red. Fun fact: Often called Juneberry because fruits ripen in June. Fruits are a nice snack or for making jam but you'd better get there before the birds.



Concolor fir (*Abies concolor*) Commonly called white fir. Large conifer that grows to 50' tall and 25' spread from the Rocky Mountains. Slow growth at first, then increasing to medium growth rate on well drained sites and tolerates most soils and drought. Grows well in full sun. Beautiful pyramid shape. Light green to blue-green needles with upright purple-cinnamon colored 1 ½" long cones. Fun fact: A favorite Christmas tree among astute buyers. Fir needles are flat and will not roll between finger and thumb like pine or spruce needles.

