

Trees for Central Northwest Washington

Hot, dry summers and cold and drying winters in North Central Washington present challenging conditions for many trees we know and want to plant.

There are beautiful trees that grow well in areas of Chelan and Douglas Counties. In addition to familiar trees commonly planted in this area, a host of others less frequently seen add interesting form, flower and colors to enrich the diversity of our tree population. Consider these trees, whether you're planting a new landscape or replacing a tree.

Trees grown here in Central Northwest Washington require supplemental water-- more during the first year of growth.

Small Trees- mature height of 30' or less

Small Conifer Trees

Oregon Green Austrian Pine- *Pinus nigra* 'Compacta'
 Size: 15' x 10' Zone: 4
 Shape: Columnar to oval with upsweeping branches
 Foliage: Stiff dense 2 needle
 Flower: Cones

Oregon Green Austrian Pine- *Pinus nigra* 'Compacta'
 Size: 15' x 10' Zone: 4
 Shape: Columnar to oval with upsweeping branches
 Foliage: Stiff dense 2 needle
 Flower: Cones

Vanderwolf's Pyramid Pine-
Pinus flexilis 'Vanderwolf's Pyramid'
 Size 25' x 15' Zone: 4
 Shape: Upright columnar
 Foliage: Blue green 5 needle
 Flower: Cone
 Comments: Very adaptable

Dwarf Japanese Red Pine- *Pinus densiflora* 'Umbraculifera'
 Size: 20' x 30' Zone: 4
 Shape: Oval, irregular branch habit
 Foliage: Paired needles
 Flower: Cones
 Comments: Reddish/orange exfoliating bark

Dwarf Eastern White Pine -*Pinus strobus* 'Nana'
 Size: 6' x 10' Zone: 3
 Shape: Oval, irregular branched habit
 Foliage: Silvery blue/green 5 needle
 Flower: Cone
 Comments: Slow growing

Japanese Umbrella Pine- *Sciadopitys verticillata*
 Size: 20' - 30' x 15' Zone: 5
 Shape: Pyramidal
 Foliage: Large whorled needles
 Flower: Cones
 Comments: Slow growing, protect from hot afternoon sun

Small Deciduous Trees

Amur Maackia--*Maackia amurensis*
 Size: 25' x 20' Zone: 3
 Shape: Upright vase
 Shape with rounded crown
 Foliage: Medium green
 Flower: Upright white clusters in mid-summer
 Fall color: NA
 Comments: Tolerant of many conditions

Small Flowering Trees

Japanese Stewartia- *Stewartia pseudocamellia*

Size: 20'-30' tall x 20'-30' wide

Zone: 5

Shape: Pyramidal to oval

Foliage: Green

Foliage: 2.5" white

Fall color: Yellow/red/purple

Comments: Attractive exfoliating bark, avoid hot afternoon sites

Japanese Ivory Silk Lilac- *Syringa reticulata* 'Ivory Silk'

Size: 25' x 15'

Zone: 4

Shape: Oval, compact with upward curving branches

Foliage: Dark green

Flower: Large white clusters in early July

Comments: Excellent choice for urban landscape

Chinese Fringe Tree- *Chionanthus retusus*

Size: 20' x 20'

Zone: 5

Shape: Broadly oval

Foliage: Deep green

Flower: White, snow-like, in large clusters in late spring

Fall color: Bright yellow

Forest Pansy Redbud- *Cercis canadensis* 'Forest Pansy'

Size: 20' x 25'

Zone: 5/6

Shape: Upright spreading/rounded

Foliage: Deep purple to bronze-green interior

Flower: Magenta rose in spring (shown)

Fall color: Yellow

Comments: 'Hearts of Gold' is zone 5

Sourwood - *Oxydendrum arboreum*

Size: 20' - 25' x 10' - 15'

Zone: 5

Shape: Pyramidal, drooping branches

Foliage: Green

Flower: Fragrant, lily-of the valley like

Foliage in summer

Fall color: Red - purple

Comments: Prefers soils of 7.2 or less. Slow growing.

Small Trees for Fall Color

Amur Maple - *Acer ginnala* 'Flame'

Size: 20' tall x 20' wide

Zone: 2

Shape: Low branched, rounded

Foliage: Green

Flower: NA

Fall color: Orange-red

Comment: Red November nice cultivar

Paperbark Maple - *Acer griseum*

Size: 25' - 30' x 20'

Zone: 5

Shape: Upright, spreading

Foliage: Dark green

Flower: NA

Fall color: Unreliable red

Comment: Beautiful exfoliating bark

Golden Desert Ash- *Fraxinus excelsior* 'Aureafolia'

Size: 20' x 18'

Zone: 5

Shape: Rounded, compact

Foliage: Yellow

Flower: NA

Fall color: Golden-yellow

Comments: Good street tree

Persian Parrotia - *Parrotia persica*

Size: 25' - 30' x 20'

Zone: 5

Shape: Upright to wide spreading, oval

Foliage: Pink/purple emerging leaves turning green

Flower: NA

Fall color: succession of yellow - orange - red

Comments: Good landscape and street trees

Wireless Zelkova- *Zelkova serrata* 'Schmidtlow'

Size: 24' x 36'

Zone: 5

Shape: Broadly spreading vase

Foliage: Medium green

Flower: NA

Fall color: Red

Comment: Other cultivars with different shapes, heights

Medium Trees- mature height 30' - 55'

Medium Size Conifer Trees

White Fir- *Abies Concolor*

Size: 50' - 75' tall x 25' wide

Zone: 3

Shape: Pyramidal

Foliage: Blue needles

Flower: Cones

Fall color: NA

Comments: cultivar 'Candicans'

Eastern Red Cedar- *Juniperus virginiana*

Size: 40'tall x 10' wide

Zone 2

Shape: Pyramidal

Foliage: Blue/green scale or awl-like needles

Flower: Seed cones (berry)

Fall color: Bronze

Comments: Tolerant of adverse conditions.

Many smaller cultivars 15 - 25 ft.

Japanese cryptomeria- *Crytomeria japonica*

Size: 50' - 60' x 25'

Zone: 5

Shape: Pyramidal

Foliage: Green blue, awl

Shaped needles

Flower: Cone

Fall color: Bronze

Comments: Smaller popular cultivars

'Yoshino' (15'-25' x 10'-15')-

Colorado Blue Spruce- *Picea pungens* 'Hoopsii'

Size: 30' - 60' x 10' - 20'

Zone: 3

Shape: Pyramidal

Foliage: Blue/green needle

Flower: Cone

Fall color: NA

Comments: Smaller cultivar - Fat Albert (15')

Cedar of Lebanon- *Cerus libani* 'Stencoma'

Size: 40' - 50' x 30' - 50'

Zone: 5

Shape: Pyramidal in youth; dense; flat topped, horizontally spreading branches with age

Foliage: Very dark green, needles in clusters

Flower: Cones, purple

Fall color: NA

Comments: Slow growing

Medium Size Deciduous Trees

Autumn Blaze Maple- *Acer x freemanii* 'Jeffersred'

Size: 50' tall x 40' wide Zone: 3

Shape: Broadly oval

Foliage: Green

Flower: NA (seedless)

Fall color: Brilliant orange/red

Comments: Fast growing.

There are many cultivars of maple trees

Black Tupelo- *Nyssa sylvatica*

Size: 40' x 25' Zone: 3

Shape: Pyramidal to irregular rounded

Foliage: Glossy green

Flower: NA

Fall color: Red

Comments: Does not tolerate high pH (above 7.8)

Ginkgo biloba

Size: 40' - 50' x 25' Zone: 3

Shape: Pyramidal, irregular

Foliage: Green fan-shaped

Flower: NA

Fall color: Yellow

Comments: Buy male clones . Slow-medium growth rate.

Autumn Gold, Lakeview, Magyar, Princeton Sentry, Shangri-la

Katsura- *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*

Size: 40' x 40' Zone: 5

Shape: Upright, pyramidal when young, rounded with age

Foliage: blue green

Flower: NA

Fall color: yellow to apricot

Comments: Thin bark can sunburn. Protect young bark in winter.

Compacted soil can be a problem.

Kentucky Coffee Tree- *Gymnocladus dioicus*

Size: 50' x 35' Zone: 4

Shape: Narrow to oval

Foliage: Dark green

Flower: White pea-like in late spring, pods Fall color: Yellow

Comments: tolerates heat, drought, alkaline soils, and soil compaction.

Golden Rain Tree- *Koelreuteria paniculata*

Size: 35' x 30' Zone: 5

Shape: Rounded

Foliage: Dark green

Flower: Yellow in summer, pods

Fall color: Yellow/orange

Comments: Tolerates drought, heat, wind, and air pollution

Large Trees- mature height 60' and over

Large Deciduous Trees

Tulip Tree- *Liriodendron tulipifera*
Size 60' x 30'
Zone: 5
Shape: Oval
Foliage: Green
Flower: Greenish yellow with orange center; late spring, early summer
Fall color: Yellow
Comments: Fast growing. Smaller cultivars
Fastigiatum (50' x 15')

Large Conifer Trees

Dawn Redwood- *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
Size: 70' x 25'
Zone: 4
Shape: Pyramidal, rounding with age
Foliage: Soft green needles
Flowers: Cones
Fall color: Bronze
Comments: Deciduous

Giant Sequoia- *Sequoiadendrum sempervirans*
Size: 60' - 70' x 30'
Zone: 5
Shape: Pyramidal
Foliage: Blue green awl
Shaped needles
Flowers: Cone
Fall color: NA
Comments: Reddish brown bark

Weeping Alaskan Cedar- *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*
Size: 60' - 90' x 20' - 30'
Zone: 4
Shape: Pyramidal with weeping tertiary branches
Foliage: Green scale-like needles
Flower: Cone
Fall color: NA

Compiled by Paula Dinias, Urban Horticulturist, WSU Chelan County Extension. March, 2009.

This information is the author's work and does not constitute endorsement by WSU Extension. Mention of retailers, publications and web sites are the author's opinion and are offered as examples only. Check with your local garden center for current product availability. Be sure to read and follow all label directions.

For more information, contact WSU Extension, 400 Washington Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801, 509-667-6540