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Selections of Shade and Flowering Trees for Michigan Landscapes

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NO. 6

# SELECTIONS of SHADE and FLOWERING TREES for Michigan Landscapes



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This list of "Selections of Shade and Flowering Trees for Michigan Landscapes" has been compiled as a guide to some of the better selections of trees that are presently available for landscape beautification. This list should be used in conjunction with: Extension Bulletins E-552 "Ornamental Deciduous Trees for Michigan," 45 cents, for sale only; and E-616 "Familiar Trees of Michigan," price 20 cents, and "Michigan Trees Worth Knowing" (Michigan Department of Natural Resources). No attempt has been made to list all the cultivars of a species, but only those that are available in the trade and are hardy in Michigan.

Although all of the selections may not be available at a single garden center or nursery, most nurserymen can obtain them from other production nurseries. Plant Buyer's Guide published by the American Association of Nurserymen (230 Southern Building, Washington, D.C. 20005) should be consulted for possible sources of these plants.

## Selections for Michigan

**ACER PLATANOIDES:** Norway Maple, 50-75', round, dense crown, dark green leaves

Almira: small (20') globe shaped

Cleveland: upright, broad oval

Columnare: upright, narrow (40')

Crimson King: purple-leaved during growing season

Cutleaf: split-leaf form

Drummondii: light green leaves edged with white

Emerald Queen: ascending branches, rapid growing, dark green leaves, similar to Summershade

Erectum: very narrow head, with short lateral branches

Faassen's Redleaf (Faassen's Black) (Royal Red): dark red leaves, similar to Crimson King.

Globosum: low growing (20') round-headed tree

Greenlace: cutleaf, rapid growth rate

Jade Glen: rapid growth, golden yellow in fall

Olmsted: upright, similar to Columnare

Schwedleri: purplish-red leaves in spring, slow growing

Summershade: oval shaped, leathery leaves, heat resistant, rapid growing, similar to Emerald Queen

**ACER PSEUDOPLATANUS:** Sycamore Maple, 75', wide-spreading maple with clusters of fruit during summer

Brilliantissima: leaves orange and yellow in the spring

Purpureum: purple coloration on back of leaf

**ACER RUBRUM:** Red Maple, 75', rounded to elliptical, with good red foliage color in fall

Armstrong: fastigate, spire-like, beautiful light gray bark

Autumn Flame: dense growing, brilliant scarlet foliage in fall

Bowhall: slow growing, narrow, pyramidal shaped, bright red fall color (similar to Scanlon)

Gerling: broadly pyramidal (35') densely branched

October Glory: retains leaves late into fall, crimson-red foliage color in the fall

Red Sunset: heavy-textured leaves, excellent orange-red fall color

Scanlon: conical, compactly branched, orange-amber red foliage in fall (similar to Bowhall)

Scarlet Sentinel: columnar form, vigorous growth, smooth shiny bark

Schlesinger: scarlet fall color, rapid growth rate

Tilford: globeheaded, uniform in shape (25')

**ACER SACCHARINUM:** Silver Maple, 80', broad spreading crown, leaves with sharp margins, rapid growing

Pyramidal: pyramidal habit

Silver Queen: leaves bright green with silvery undersurface (Seedless)

Weiri (Beebe): weeping form, "cutleaves"

**ACER SACCHARUM:** Sugar Maple, 100', oval to elliptical, yellow-orange or golden foliage color in the fall

Globosum: slow growing (10'), dense round-headed

Green Mountain: upright oval crown, dark green foliage, scarlet in the fall

Newton Sentry (Sentry): columnar with central leader

Sweet Shadow (Cutleaf): deeply cut lobes, dark green foliage

Temple's Upright (Monumental): 50', slender column with dark green foliage

**AESCULUS CARNEA:** Red Horse-Chestnut, 40'

Brioti: scarlet colored flowers, foliage glossy green, seldom forms fruit

**AESCULUS HIPPOCASTANUM:** *Horse-Chestnut, 60' elliptical when young, rounded with age*  
Baumanni: flowers double, no fruit formation

**BETULA PENDULA (VERRUCOSA):** *European White Birch, 40', pyramidal, somewhat pendulous, attractive with white bark*

Fastigiata: upright narrow

Laciniata (Gracilis) (Tristis): cutleaf form, drooping branches

Purpurea (Purple Splendor) (Scarlet Glory): purple leaves

Youngi: pendulous habit

**CARPINUS BETULUS:** *European Hornbeam, 50', pyramidal in youth, rounded with maturity (of questionable hardiness north of Flint)*

Columnaris: narrow, somewhat egg-shaped

Fastigiata: upright, 30' vase-shaped

Globosa: rounded

Incisa: leaves deeply lobed

Pendula: weeping habit

Purpurea: purple leaves in spring

Pyramidalis: broadly pyramidal

Quercifolia: oakleaf form

**CERCIS CANADENSIS:** *American Redbud, 25', flat-topped, irregular small tree, attractive, purplish, pea-like flowers in early spring*

Alba: white flowers

Forest Pansy: young leaves deep purple through growing season

Pinkbud: pink flowers

Pink Charm (Wither's Pink Charm): pink flowers (no trace of purple)

**CORNUS FLORIDA:** *Flowering Dogwood, 30', small flowering tree with horizontal branches, attractive floral bracts in spring. (Bracts may be injured by cold winter temperature)*

Apple Blossom: flower color similar to apple blossoms

Cherokee Chief: bracts are ruby red

Cherokee Princess: large white bracts

Cloud 9: flowers at an early age, white bracts

Fragrant Cloud: some fragrant

Multibracteata (Plena): double bracts

Pendula: weeping branches

Rubra: pink bracts

Springtime: bracts are rose-red

Welchi (Rainbow): leaves are a combination of green, pink and white

White Cloud: creamy white bracts

**CORNUS KOUSA:** *Japanese Dogwood, 20'*

Chinensis: foliage and bracts larger than species

Milky Way: creamy white, more prolific in flowering

Summer Stars: holds bracts into August

**CRATAEGUS CRUSGALLI:** *Cockspur Hawthorn, 20-30', broad-rounded, horizontal thorny branches*

Splendens: thorny, dense round head

Inermis: thornless

X Hooks: large red fruit (3/8-1"); leaves free of disease and blight

**CRATAEGUS X LAVALLEI:** *Lavalle Hawthorn, 15-30', dense oval-headed, bronzy or coppery-red fall foliage*

**CRATAEGUS OXYACANTHA:** *English Hawthorn, 15-20', shrubby, low branching, dense head with ascending branches*

Autumn Glory: double pink flowers with red fruit in fall and winter

Crimson Cloud: large single bright red flowers with white center

Pauli: flowers double, bright scarlet and showy

Superba: large bright red flowers with glossy red fruit in fall and winter. Resistant to leaf spot.

**CRATAEGUS PHAENOPYRUM:** *Washington Hawthorn, 25-30', broadly columnar, foliage lustrous dark green, glossy red fruit*

Toba: double pink flowers

**FAGUS SYLVATICA:** *European Beech, 80', large pyramidal, with glossy green leaves, smooth, gray bark*

Asplenifolia: fernlike leaves

Atropurpurea (Atropurpurea): purple (copper) leaves

Cuprea: copper foliage all summer

Dawycki: upright

Fastigiata: narrow, upright form

Laciniata: cutleaf form

Pendula: weeping, green leaves

Purpurea Pendula: red leaved, weeping form

Riversi: young foliage is red, turns purple with maturity

Rohani: red fernleaved form

Spaethiana (Spaethi): red leaved, good color all season

Tricolor (Roseo-marginata): variegated foliage (green, white and pink), slow growth, may be hard to establish

Zlatia: leaves at tip of branches are gold colored

**FRAXINUS AMERICANA:** *White Ash, 80', erect with rounded crown*

Autumn Purple: seedless American ash with deep purple fall color

Rose Hill: seedless, dark green foliage, tolerant of poor alkaline soils, bronze-red fall color

**FRAXINUS EXCELSIOR:** *European Ash, 80', erect with rounded crown*

Aurea: golden-yellow foliage in early fall

Globosa: globeheaded (30'), with 20' diameter head

Gold Cloud: yellow twigs, leaves turn yellow in fall

Hessei: rounded-head, simple, lustrous dark green leaves

Pendula: (45'), weeping growth habit

Rancho: small (30') round head

**FRAXINUS PENNSYLVANICA LANCEOLATA:** *Green Ash, 60', dense, rounded crown*

Marshall's Seedless: male form, does not produce fruit, dark, glossy green foliage, may have less insect problems, yellow fall foliage

Summit: upright, pyramidal, glossy foliage (female)

Kimberly Blue: valuable for its tolerance of alkaline soils

**GINKGO BILOBA:** *Maidenhair Tree, 75', open, wide-spreading, fan-shaped leaves*

Autumn Gold: bright golden fall color, rapid growth rate

Fairmont: upright pyramidal

Fastigiata: upright growth

Lakeview: compact, conical form

Mayfield (Sentry): narrow, columnar

Pendula (Male forms): pendulous branchlets

Santa Cruz: umbrella form

**GLEDITSIA TRIACANTHOS:** *Honey Locust, 75', fine leaf texture, broad-open habit*

Cottage Green: semi-upright, dark green leaves, stem is green in youth, seedless, thornless

Imperial: graceful, spreading, straight trunk, seedless, thornless

Majestic: upright, compact growth, relatively seedless, thornless

Maxwell: upright, reputed hardy to low temperature

Moraine: thornless, seedless, wide-spreading

Rubylace: ruby-red foliage in spring changing to bronze in summer, weak trunk development

Shademaster: upright, seedless, thornless

Skyline: pyramidal, strong, wide-angled crotches, seedless, thornless

Sunburst: new foliage golden yellow on 8-10" of branch tips

*(There are numerous introductions of this species. Listed clones are available at most nurseries.)*

**LIQUIDAMBAR STYRACIFLUA:** *American Sweet-Gum, 75', broadly pyramidal, star-shaped leaf (of questionable hardiness north of Flint)*

Burgundy: burgundy-red fall color, holds leaves late in the fall

Festival: narrow, upright, yellow colored fall foliage

Palo Alto: pyramidal symmetrical habit, bright orange-red fall color

Variegata: leaves irregularly green and yellow

**MAGNOLIA:** *Magnolia, 40'*

Merrill (Dr. Merrill): rapid growing, early flowering

**MAGNOLIA SOULANGIANA:** *Saucer Magnolia, 30', small flowering tree with many main stems. A hybrid form with many clones.*

Alba: white flowers

Alexandrina: large flowers, rose-purple, outside

Burgundy: dark purple flowers

Grace McDade: white, pink base to petals

Lennei: dark, magenta-purple

Nigra: darkest magenta

Speciosa: almost white

Superba: large flowers, lilac pink outside and white inside

**MAGNOLIA STELLATA:** *Star Magnolia, 20', small tree with double flowers*

Royal Star: large, fragrant, double white flowers

Rubra: rose-purple flowers

Waterlily: upright, bushy, flower buds pink, flowers white

*(There are many other selected forms of Magnolia. Before planting, be sure they are hardy for the site.)*

**MALUS:** *Crabapple, 20-50'*

American Beauty: double red flowers

X atrosanguinea: lateral growth, broader than high, pink flowers, scab resistant

Barbara Ann: good double pink flower, semi-upright

baccata Jacki: broad upright, excellent red fruits, white fragrant flowers

Coralburst: dwarf (8') upright branching, double rose-pink flowers

X Dorothea: double rose colored flowers

halliana parkmani: almost shrubby, double pink flowers, scab resistant

X Katherine: double white fragrant flowers

X purpurea Lemoinei: dark rose colored flowers, scab resistant, alternate flowering

X Radiant: spring and fall foliage somewhat reddish

X Red Jade: pendulous branching, white flowers, scarlet fruits contrasting with tan stems

X Royalty (Royal red): foliage is a good deep purple the year around with dark red flowers

X Red Jewel: red fruit, has large, leathery, dark glossy, green leaves

Snowdrift: white flowers, scarlet fruits

X Tschonoski: broad upright habit of growth, fall color bronze red, glossy foliage and vigorous grower

X Van Eseltine: double pink flowers, profuse, a columnar tree for many years, resistant to scab

White Angel: white flowers, red fruits persist into winter

X zumi calocarpa: white flowers, colorful fruits persist into the winter

*(There are many excellent Crabapples. Those listed are some of the best for Michigan landscapes.)*

**PLATANUS ACERIFOLIA:** *London Plane Tree, 75'*

Bloodgood strain: reported to be resistant to anthracnose

**PRUNUS AVIUM:** *Mazzard Cherry, 50'*

Scanlon: globe shape

Plena: double white flowers, hardy

Prunus x blireiana: green leaves turning red in summer

**PRUNUS CERASIFERA:** *Myrobalan Plum, 25'*

Hollywood: foliage turns purple

Newport: reddish purple foliage with bright red tips

Nigra: dark purple foliage

Thundercloud: dark purple foliage, transplant balled and burlapped spring only

**PRUNUS SARGENTI:** *Sargent Cherry, 60'*

Columnaris (Rancho): columnar habit

**PRUNUS SERRULATA:** *Oriental Cherry, 20'*

Amanogawa: columnar form, light pink, fragrant pink flowers

Fugenzo: light pink, profuse, double flowers, orange-red foliage in fall

Kwanzan: double deep pink, profuse flowers, orange-red foliage in fall

Shirofugen: double pink flowers that fade to white profuse

Shirotae: double white abundant flowers

**PRUNUS SUBHIRTILLA:** *Higan Cherry, 30'*

Autumnalis: semi-double light pink flowers in the fall (flowers also in the spring)

Pendula: pendulous branches, single pink flowers in early spring

Yae-shidare-higan (Pendula plena): pendulous branches, double pink flowers

**PRUNUS YEDOENSIS:** *Yoshino Cherry, 40'* (The famous trees of the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C.)

Akebono (Daybreak): light pink flowers

(There are many selections of Prunus. Those listed are among the best for Michigan.)

**PYRUS CALLERYANA:** *Callery Pear, 40', symmetrical pyramid, glossy green foliage*

Faurie: Korean Callery Pear, 20', round head, deep green foliage

Bradford: singularly pest free, oval with broad base, fall color is yellow mixed with bronzy-red, flowers are white, 40'

Chanticleer: very narrow, columnar, dense

Rancho: similar to Bradford but not as dense

**QUERCUS PLAUSTRIS:** *Pin Oak, 50-75'*

Sovereign: lower branches semi-upright

**QUERCUS ROBUR:** *English Oak, 50-75'*

Fastigiata: columnar habit with upright branching

**SOPHORA JAPONICA:** *Scholartree, 40'*

Pendula: weeping form

Regent: oval, glossy dark green leaves, trusses of white pea-like flowers in summer, vigorous grower

Compiled by Harold Davidson and Ronald L. Spangler, Department of Horticulture; and Gurdon K. Dennis, District Horticultural Agent

**SORBUS AUCUPARIA:** *European Mountain Ash, 30' upright in youth, spreading with maturity, attractive red-orange fruit in fall*

Apricot Queen: apricot colored fruit

Asplenifolia: leaflets doubly serrated

Brilliant Pink: pink fruit

Carpet of Gold: sulphur-yellow to orange fruit

Cardinal Royal: red fruits and fruiting about month earlier than species

Fastigiata: upright

Pendula: weeping

Rowencroft Pink coral: coral pink fruit

Scarlet King: scarlet fruit

Wilson: columnar form

**TILIA AMERICANA:** *American Linden, 75'*

Redmond: pyramidal form

**TILIA CORDATA:** *Littleleaf Linden, 75', pyramidal, dense, compact*

Chancellor: narrow upright, compact, symmetrical

Greenspire: narrow-oval, straight trunk with radially arranged branches, rapid growth rate

June Bride: pyramidal with straight central leader abundant bloom

Pyramidalis: wide pyramidal

Rancho: dense crown, dark glossy leaves

**ULMUS AMERICANA:** *American Elm, 75-100', upright with spreading branches*

Augustine: columnar, rapid growth

Moline: narrow growth habit, (tends to split at crotch of main branches)

**ULMUS CARPINIFOLIA:** *Smooth-Leaved Elm, 75', rounded crown*

Christine Buisman: reported to be resistant to Dutch elm disease

Umbraculifera: 30', globe shaped crown

**ZELKOVA SERRATA:** *Japanese Zelkova, 50', vase shaped small tree, similar to American elm*

Village Green: straight trunk, large green leaves turning rusty-red in the fall, may be susceptible to canker problems

Park View: elm-like form