

**Metro Tree Advisory Committee**  
**RECOMMENDED and PROHIBITED TREE LIST - Updated 2022**

The Recommended Trees are used in selecting trees for Commercial and Residential Tree Code.  
The trees on the Prohibited Tree List are not able to be counted towards meeting the Tree Code Tree Density Units (TDUs).

<b>Canopy Trees - A tree that normally achieves an overall height at maturity of 30 feet or more – not for use under powerlines.</b>			
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Native Yes/No</b>	<b>Notes from the Metro Tree Advisory Committee</b>
<b>Deciduous Trees</b>			
Florida Maple/Southern Sugar Maple	<i>Acer barbatum</i>	Y	
Black Maple	<i>Acer nigrum</i>	Y	
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Y	Armstrong,' (Receives 1/4 TDU) 'Bowhall'
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Y	Select heat tolerant cultivars
Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Y	
Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus flava</i>	Y	
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Y	
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	Y	10 hickory species native to Tennessee: bitternut, mockernut, pecan, pignut, red, sand, shagbark, shellbark, southern shagbark and water. May be hard to locate

Sugarberry	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Y	
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Y	
Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressus x leylandii</i>	N	
Katsura Tree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	N	
American Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	Y	
Deodar Cedar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	N	
Common Persimmon	<i>Diospora virginiana</i>	Y	
Hardy Rubber Tree	<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>	N	
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Y	
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba male cultivars</i>	N	Male Only. 'Princeton Century' Receives 1/4 TDU Credit
Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i>	Y	Thornless, Fruitless
Kentucky Coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Y	Fruitless
Black walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	N	
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Y	Fruitless; 'Slender Silhouette' Upright Form - Receives 1/4 TDU Credit
Yellow Poplar/Tuliptree/Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Y	

American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Y	
Dawn Redwood	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	N	
Black Gum/Black Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Y	
London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	N	
Sawtooth Oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	N	
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Y	
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Y	
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Y	
Southern Red Oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Y	
Cherrybark oak	<i>Quercus pagoda</i>	Y	
Overcup Oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	Y	
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Y	
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Y	
Chinkapin Oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Y	
Nuttall Oak	<i>Quercus nuttallii (texana)</i>	Y	

Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Y	
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>	Y	
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	N	Fastigiata' Receives 1/4 TDU Credit
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Y	
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Y	
Loblolly Pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Y	
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Y	Shawnee Brave' - More Upright for narrow spaces
American Basswood	<i>Tilia americana var. americana</i>	Y	
White Basswood	<i>Tilia americana var. heterophylla</i>	Y	
Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	N	
Silver Linden	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	N	
Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Y	
Winged Elm	<i>Ulmus alata</i>	Y	
American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Y	Disease resistant, 'Valley Forge'
Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> 'Bosque'	N	Disease resistant only

Slippery Elm	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Y	
September Elm	<i>Ulmus serotina</i>	Y	
Japanese Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	N	'Green Vase'
<b>Evergreen Trees</b>			
Cryptomeria	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	N	
American Holly and cultivars	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Y	
Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Y	
Southern Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Y	
sweetbay magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Y	Semi Evergreen
Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>	N	
Shortleaf Pine	<i>Pinus echinata</i>	Y	
Scots Pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	N	
Japanese Black Pine	<i>Pinus thunbergiana</i>	N	
Emerald Green Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> 'Smaragd'	Y	

Green Giant Arborvitae	<i>Thuja standishii x plicata</i> 'Green Giant'	N	
<b>Small Trees</b>			
<b>Trees that normally achieve an overall height at maturity of 15 to 30 feet</b>			
Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergeranum</i>	N	
Hedge Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	N	
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	N	
Paperbark Maple	<i>Acer griseum</i>	N	
Japanese Maple	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	N	
Red Buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	Y	
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i>	Y	
Pawpaw <i>Asimina triloba</i>	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Y	Only larval host of the state butterfly, the Zebra swallowtail.
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Y	Frans fontaine' Receives 1/4 TDU Credit
Eastern Redbud and cultivars	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Y	
Chinese Redbud	<i>Cercis chinensis</i>	N	

Chinese Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	N	
White Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Y	
Smoketree	<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	N	
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Y	
Kousa Dogwood	<i>Cornus kousa</i>	N	
Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	Y	Blight
Green Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	Y	
two-wing silverbell or two-winged snowdrop	Halesia diptera	Y	The "Magniflora Group" variety produces more abundant and larger flowers
Carolina buckthorn	Frangula caroliniana	Y	
Franklin Tree	<i>Franklinia alatamaha</i>	Y	
Possumhaw	<i>Ilex decidua</i>	Y	
Saucer Magnolia	<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>	N	
Star Magnolia	<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	N	
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Y	Semi-Evergreen
Crabapples	<i>Malus</i> cultivars/varieties	N	Disease resistant only

Apples	<i>Malus domestica</i> spp.	N	
American Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Y	
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Y	
Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	N	
American Plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	Y	
Chickasaw Plum	<i>Prunus augustifolia</i>	Y	
Cherry Laurel Prunus caroliniana	<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Y	
Japanese flowering apricot	<i>Prunus mume</i>	N	
Flowering Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>	N	
Yoshino Cherry	<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i>	N	
Fruiting Pear - Different from Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	N	
Japanese Snowbell	<i>Styrax japonicus</i>	N	
Japanese Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	N	
Littleleaf Linden 'Green Globe'	<i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Green Globe'	N	



<b>Evergreen Low Growing Trees</b>			
Foster's Hybrid Hollies	<i>Ilex x attenuate 'Fosteri'</i>	N	
Burford Holly -tree form	<i>Ilex cornuta 'Burfordi'</i>	N	
Nellie R. Stevens Holly	<i>Ilex x 'Nellie R. Stevens'</i>	N	
Little Gem Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem'</i>	Y	
Cherry Laurel – tree form	<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Y	

**Chapter 17.24 - LANDSCAPING, BUFFERING AND TREE REQUIREMENTS**

**Shrubs are for the Landscaping and Buffering part of 17.24 Code and not under review**

**SHRUBS – a woody plant with multiple stems capable of growing to a height of no more than 15 feet.**

<b>Shrubs for Buffer Yards: One half of required shrubs must be evergreen species and reach a height of 5 feet within 5 years of planting.</b>			
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Native Yes/No</b>	<b>Notes from the Metro Tree Advisory Committee</b>
Glossy Abelia	<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i> & cultivars	N	
Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa</i>	Y	
Red Chokecherry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> & cultivars	Y	
Clethra	<i>Clethra</i>	Y	
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> & cultivars	N	
Flowering Quince	<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	N	
Flowering Forsythia	<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>	N	
Fothergilla	<i>Fothergilla</i>	Y	
Oakleaf Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> & cultivars	Y	
Panicked Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>	N	Toughest of all the hydrangeas

Finetooth Holly	<i>Ilex serrata</i>	N	
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Y	
Sweetshrub	<i>Calycanthus</i>	Y	
Virginia Sweetspire	<i>Ilex virginica</i>	Y	
Beauty Bush	<i>Kolkwitzia amabilis</i>	N	
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum</i> species & cultivars	Y	
Witchhazwl	<i>Hamamelis</i>	Y	
<b>Evergreen Shrubs</b>			
Chinese Hollies	<i>Ilex cornuta</i> cultivars	N	
Japanese Holly	<i>Ilex crenata</i>	N	
Meserveae hybrid Hollies	<i>Ilex x meserveae</i>	N	
Chinese Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	N	
Leatherleaf Mahonia	<i>Mahonia bealei</i>	N	
Otto Luyken & Schip Cherry Laurels	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	N	

American Emerald Green Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis 'Smaragd'</i>	Y	
<b>Best choices for perimeter evergreen shrubs</b>			
<b>Parking lot screening for a public street must be maintained at 2 1/2 feet</b>			
American Boxwood	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	N	
Otto Luyken English Laurel	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	N	
Schip Laurel	<i>Prunus laurocerasus 'Schipkaensis'</i>	N	
Dense Yew	<i>Taxus x media 'Densifomis'</i>	N	

## PROHIBITED TREES

Prohibited lists is for Trees and Shrubs that will not be given density credit for meeting the Metro Tree and Landscape Code.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native Yes/No	Notes from the Metro Tree Advisory Committee
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Y	
Tree-of-Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	N	
Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	N	
Common Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	N	
Paper Mulberry	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera, syn. Morus papyrifera L</i>	N	
Russian Olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	N	
Autmun Olive	<i>Elaeagus umbellata</i>	N	
Ash spp. (green, white, blue)	<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>	Y	Emerald Ash Borer
Chinese Parasol Tree	<i>Firmiana simplex</i>	N	
Goldenrain Tree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	N	
China Berry	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	N	
Royal Paulownia/Princess Tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	N	

White Poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>	N	
Amur corktree	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	N	
Callery Pear, Bradford and all cultivars	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> (all varieties)	N	Invasive, breaks
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Y	
Chinese Tallow	<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	N	
Eastern (Canadian) Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Y	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
Siberian Elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	N	
White Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Y	Emerald Ash Borer
<b>PROHIBITED SHRUBS</b>			
<b>Burning Bush</b>	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	N	Invasive
Shrub Althea	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	N	Invasive
Nandina/Dwarf Nandina	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	N	Invasive
Chinese Privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	N	Invasive
Bush Honeysuckles	<i>Lonicera morrowii, maackii &amp; tartarica</i>	N	Invasive

Multiflora rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	N	Invasive
Trifoliolate Orange	<i>Poncirus trifoliata</i>	N	Invasive