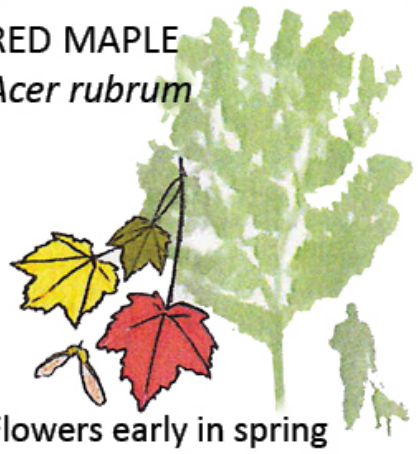
CKAR Grow Green With Trees
TREE SELECTION GUIDE

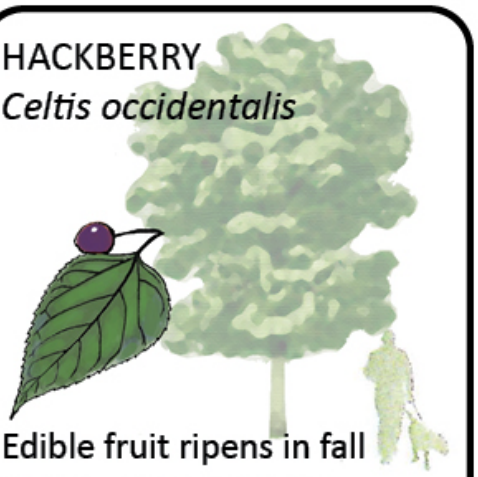
Large Shade Trees

RED MAPLE
Acer rubrum



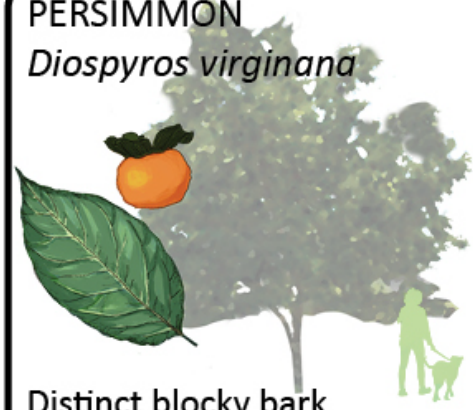
Flowers early in spring
Brilliant fall color
Prefers wet soils
High wildlife value
Height: 40-60’; Spread: 40-60’

HACKBERRY
Celtis occidentalis



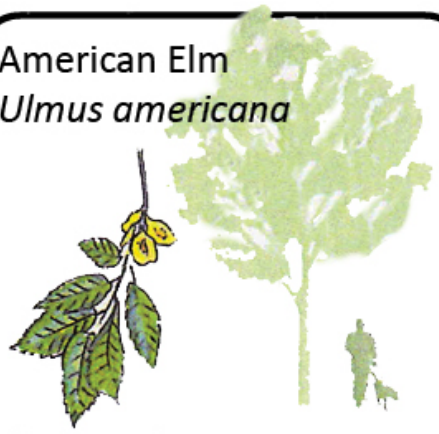
Edible fruit ripens in fall
Prefers moist soils but
tolerates dry soils and wind
High wildlife value
Height: 40-50’; Spread: 40-60’

PERSIMMON
Diospyros virginana



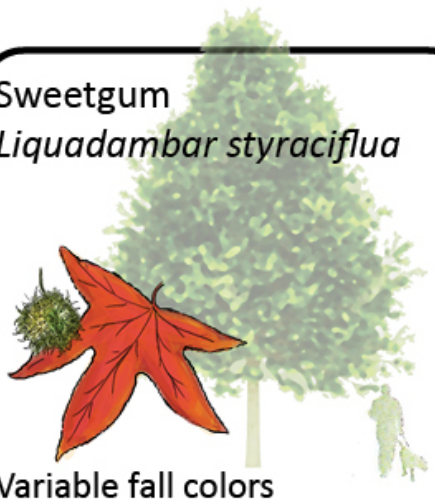
Distinct blocky bark
Edible persimmon fruits in fall
Prefers moist, well drained
and sandy soils
Height: 30-60’; Spread: 25-35’

American Elm
Ulmus americana



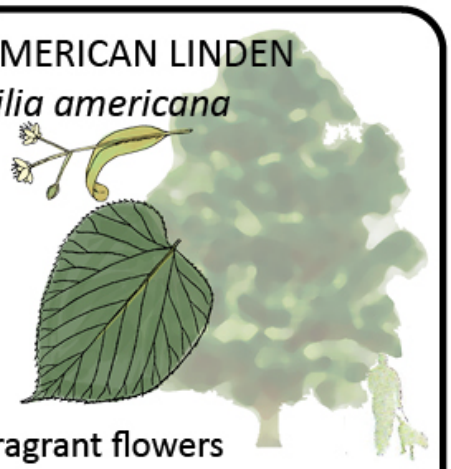
Classic and majestic
Disease resistant variety
Drought tolerant
Supports many butterflies
Height: 60-80’; Spread 30-50’

Sweetgum
Liquadambar styraciflua



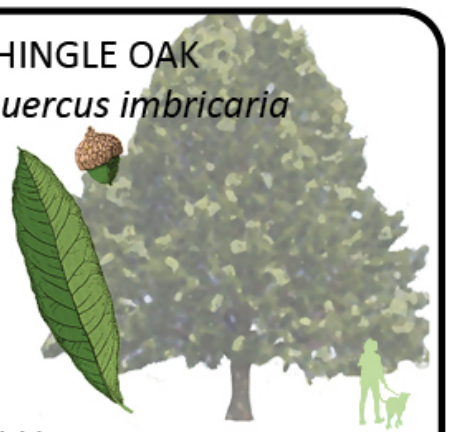
Variable fall colors
Prefers moist soils
Tolerates many soil conditions
Good for lawns and parks
Height:60-75’; Spread:40-60’

AMERICAN LINDEN
Tilia americana



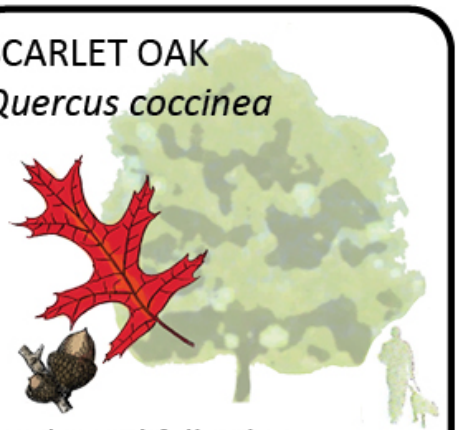
Fragrant flowers
Large dark green leaves
Tolerates dry and clay soils
High wildlife value
Height: 50-80’; Spread: 30-50’

SHINGLE OAK
Quercus imbricaria



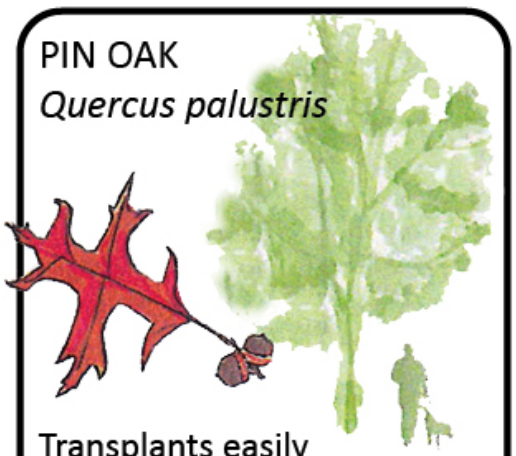
Old leaves persist on tree
through most of winter
Good pest resistance
Variable fall colors
Height: 40-60’; Spread: 40-60’

SCARLET OAK
Quercus coccinea



Scarlet red fall color
More round and open than
pin oak at maturity
Tolerates dry soils
Height: 60-70; Spread:25-40’

PIN OAK
Quercus palustris



Transplants easily
Fast growing
Tolerates flooding
Very high value for birds
Height: 60-70’; Spread 25-40’

CKAR Grow Green With Trees
TREE SELECTION GUIDE

EASTERN RED CEDAR
Juniperus virginiana

Evergreen conifer
Gray to reddish-brown bark exfoliates in thin strips
Dark blue green foliage
Height: 30-65’; Spread: 8-25’

RIVER BIRCH
Betula nigra

Fluttering leaves
Attracts songbirds
Curling, peeling bark
Salt tolerant
Height: 40-70’; Spread: 40-60’

Small Understory Trees

SERVICEBERRY
Amelanchier spp.

White flowers
Edible berries in summer
Tolerates clay soils
Good understory tree
Height: 25-30’; Spread: 15-20’

EASTERN REDBUD
Cercis canadensis

Valentine-like leaves
Young leaves are burgundy
High value to native beeds
Good in sunny locations
Height: 25-30’; Spread: 25-35’

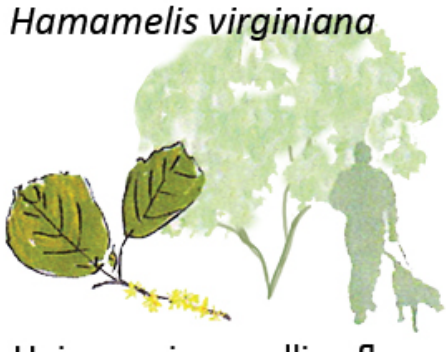
SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA
Magnolia virginiana

Showy, fragrant flowers
Glossy red seed pods
Semi-evergreen
Tolerates salt and flooding
Height: 10-20’; Spread: 10-20’

AMERICAN HORNBEAM
Carpinus caroliniana

Slow growing and graceful
Distinct smooth gray bark
Wind-chime like seedpods
Supports waterfowl
Height: 20-30’; Spread: 20-30’

AMERICAN WITCH-HAZEL
Hamamelis virginiana



Unique spicy smelling flowers bloom in fall and winter
Interesting branch structure
Leaves persist into winter
Height: 15-25’; Spread: 15-25’

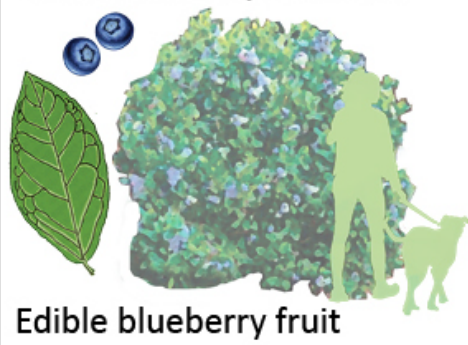
CKAR Grow Green With Trees
TREE SELECTION GUIDE

Shrubs

BLACK CHOKEBERRY
Aronia melanocarpa

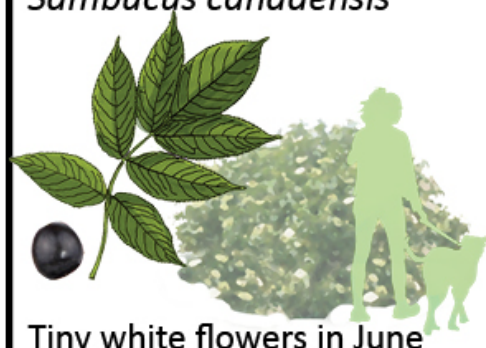
White flowers in the spring
Black chokeberries in fall can make tasty jams and jellies
Tolerates wet, boggy soils
Height: 3-6’; Spread: 3-6’

HIGHBUSH BLUEBERRY
Vaccinium corymbosom



Edible blueberry fruit
White flowers in spring
Needs constant moisture and good drainage
Height: 6-12’; Spread: 8-12’

ELDERBERRY
Sambucus canadensis



Tiny white flowers in June
Best in medium to wet soils
Fruit can be cooked and used for jams and wine
Height: 5-12’; Spread: 5-12’

WITCH ALDER
Fothergilla ajor

Fragrant white flowers
Excellent green leaf color in summer that turns red, orange and yellow in the fall
Height: 6-10’; Spread: 5-9’

Limited quantities of these trees are available for planting in the yards of homes eligible for CKAR’s Grow Green with Trees project. We encourage planting of large shade trees where there is room for them to grow free from conflicts with overhead or underground utilities. Trees should be planted no closer than 10 feet from buildings. At the time of planting they will be 5-10’ tall with trunks 1-1.5” thick.

Support and cooperation for this project comes from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, the Prince George’s Department of Environment, The Starbucks Foundation, and other area communities and organizations. For more information and to apply for a professionally planted native tree, free of cost, visit https://ckarcdc.org/community-resources/ for an application. You can also contact Dayanara Padilla at dipadilla@ckarcdc.org or Anirudh Prabu at aprabu@ckarcdc.org, or call us at 240-608-2527 for additional information in English or Spanish.