

TITLE IV

Title IV Attachment 2

City of Parkville

Appendix B

**Native Plant Materials and Great Trees for the Kansas City Region
[Ord. No. 2884, 2-7-2017; Ord. No. 3246, 1-7-2025]**

Appendix B.1: City of Parkville, Native Plant Materials List

This guide shall be used to choose all trees, shrubs and groundcover plants to meet the City's requirement for non-invasive, native plant materials. This list can be managed and supplemented by City staff from time to time and administered through more specific landscape, streetscape and site design recommendation through the development review process.

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Large Native Shade Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name
American Basswood/Linden	Tilia americana
American Beech	Fagus grandifolia
American Hornbeam	Carpinus caroliniana
American Sycamore	Platanus Occidentalis
Bitternut hickory	Carya cordiformis
Black Cherry	Prunus serotina
Black Gum (Tupelo)	Nyssa sylvatica
Black Oak	Quercus velutina
Black Walnut	Juglans Nigra
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa
Chinkapin Oak	Quercus muehlenbergii
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis
Hop Hornbeam	Ostrya virginiana
Kentucky Coffeetree	Gymnocladus dioicus
mockernut hickory	Carya tomentosa
Nuttall Oak	Quercus texana
Overcup Oak	Quercus lyrata
Pecan	Carya illinoensis
Persimmon	Diospyros virginiana
Pin Oak	Quercus palustris
Post Oak	Quercus stellata
Red hickory	Carya ovalis
Red Maple	Acer rubrum
River Birch	Betula nigra
Sassafras	Sassafras albidum
Shagbark Hickory	Carya ovata
Shellbark hickory	Carya laciniosa
Shingle Oak	Quercus imbricaria
Shumard Oak	Quercus shumardii
Sugar Maple	Acer saccharum
Swamp Chestnut Oak	Quercus michauxii
Thornless Honey Locust	Gleditsia Fabales
Tulip Poplar	Liriodendron tulipifera
White Oak	Quercus alba

Smaller Native Flowering Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name
Alleghany Serviceberry	Amelanchier laevis
American Smoke Tree	Cotinus obovatus
Bladdernut	Staphylea Sapindales
Buttonbush	Cephalanthus occidentalis
Cockspur Hawthorn	Crataegus crus-galli
Downy Hawthorn	Crataegus mollis
Downy Serviceberry	Amelanchier arborea
Eastern Redbud	Cercis Canadensis
Flowering Dogwood	Cornus Florida
Green Hawthorn	Crataegus viridis
MO Prairie Crabapple	Malus ioensis
Ohio Buckeye	Aesculus glabra
Pawpaw Tree	Asimina triloba
Red Buckeye	Aesculus pavia
Shadblow Serviceberry	Amelanchier canadensis
Washington Hawthorn	Crataegus phaenopyrum
Wild Plum	Prunus Americana

Native Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name
American Beautyberry	Callicarpa americana
American Filbert; Hazelnut	Corylus americana
Arrowwood	Viburnum dentatum
Black Chokeberry	Aronia melanocarpa
Black Haw Viburnum	Viburnum prunifolium
Chokecherry	Prunus virginiana
Deciduous Holly	Ilex decidua
Elderberry	Sambucus canadensis
Fragrant Sumac	Rhus aromatica
Golden Currant	Ribes odoratum
Indigo Bush	Amorpha fruticosa
Lead Plant	Amorpha canescens
Leatherwood	Dirca palustris
Nannyberry Viburnum	Viburnum lentago
New Jersey Tea	Ceanothus americanus
Ninebark	Physocarpus opulifolius
Prairie Willow	Salix humilis
Red Chokeberry	Aronia arbutifolia
Rusty Blackhaw	Viburnum rufidulum
Shrubby St. John's Wort	Hypericum prolificum
Spicebush	Lindera benzoin
Strawberry Bush	Euonymus americanus
Vernal Witch Hazel	Hamamelis vernalis
Virginia Sweetpire	Itea virginica
Wahoo	Euonymus atropurpureus
Wild Hydrangea	Hydrangea arborescens
Winged Sumac	Rhus copallinum
Winterberry Holly	Ilex verticillata
Witch Hazel	Hamamelis virginiana

Native Trees to Missouri but not Kansas City

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bald Cypress	Taxodium distichum
Cucumber Tree	Magnolia acuminata
Mexican Plum	Prunus Mexicana
Southern Red Oak	Quercus Falcata

Native Evergreen Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name
American Holly	Ilex opaca
Eastern Red Cedar	Juniperus Virginiana
Shortleaf Pine	Pinus echinata
Thuja/Arborvitea	Thuja occidentalis
White Pine	Pinus strobus

Native Cultivars – Trees and Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cultivars
Shade Trees		
American Sycamore	Platanus Occidentalis	'Bloodgood' 'Columbia' 'Liberty' 'Sutternii'
Shumard Oak	Quercus shumardii	
Nuttall Oak	Quercus texana	'Sangria'
Shingle Oak	Quercus imbricaria	
Overcup Oak	Quercus lyrata	
Chinkapin Oak	Quercus muehlenbergii	
Swamp White Oak	Quercus michauxii	'American Dream'
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa	'Boomer' 'Lippert'
White Oak	Quercus alba	
Black Oak	Quercus velunina	
Pin Oak	Quercus palustris	Green Pillar'
Post Oak	Quercus stellata	
Tulip Poplar	Liriodendron tulipifera	'Ardis' 'Arnold' 'Fastigiata' 'Aureomarginatum'
American BasswoodLinden	Tilia americana	
American Beech	Fagus grandifolia	
Black Cherry	Prunus serotina	
Kentucky Coffeetree	Gymnocladus dioicus	'Espresso' 'Prairie Titan' 'Stately Manor'
Pecan	Carya illinoensis	
Persimmon	Diospyros virginiana	
River Birch	Betula nigra	'Cully'
Sassafras	Sassafras albidum	
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis	
Sugar Maple	Acer saccharum	'Morton' 'Bailsta' 'Barrett Cole' 'JFS-KW8' 'Commemoration' 'Green Mountain' 'Legacy'
Red Maple	Acer rubrum	'Autumn Flame' 'Autumn Radiance' 'Autumn Spire' 'Bowhall' 'Karpick' 'Northwood' 'October Glory' 'Redpointe' 'Red Sunset' 'Scanlon'
Black Gum (Tupelo)	Nyssa sylvatica	'David Odom' 'Autumn Cascades' ' JFS-Red' 'Green Gable' 'Miss Scarlet' 'Red Rage' 'Red Splyndor' 'Sheri's Cloud' 'Snow Flurries' 'Sparkler' 'Swamp Tupelo' 'Wildfire' 'Zydeco Twist' var. biflora

Hop Hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	'Native Flame' 'Palisade' 'Ball o' Fire' 'Rising Fire'
Thornless Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia fabales</i>	<i>gleditsis triacanthos</i> 'skyline'
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	
Bitternut Hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	
Mockernut hickory	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	
Shellbark Hickory	<i>Carya laciniosa</i>	'Fayette' 'Henry' 'Keystone' 'Missouri Mammoth'
Red Hickory	<i>Carya ovalis</i>	
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	'Black Gem' 'Kwik-Krop'
Ornamental Trees		
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	'Columbus strain'
Prairie Crabapple	<i>Malus loensis</i>	'Prince Georges' 'Plena'
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus Florida</i>	'Appalachian Spring' 'Appalachian Joy' 'Cloud nine'
Wild Plum	<i>Prunus Americana</i>	
American Smoke tree	<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	'Northstar' 'Grace' 'Royal Purple'
Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	'Clark' 'Fastigiata' 'Manbeck Select' 'Princeton Sentry' 'Winter King'
Cockspur Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	
Downy Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus mollis</i>	
Green Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	'Winter King'
Red Buckeye	<i>Aesculus pavla</i>	
Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	'Autumn Splendor'
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	'Sugar Shack' 'Bailoptics'
Bladdernut	<i>Staphylea Sapindales</i>	
Downy Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	
Pawpaw Tree	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	
Shadblow Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	'Prince William' 'Rainbow Pillar' 'Spring Glory'
Allegany Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	
Shrubs		
American Filbert; Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>	
American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	var. <i>lactea</i>
Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	'Autumn Jazz' 'Morton' 'Blue Blaze'
Black Chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	'Viking' 'Nero' 'Morton'
Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	'Brilliantissima' 'Erecta'

Black Haw Viburnum	Viburnum prunifolium	'Summer Magic' 'Ovazum'
Chokecherry	Prunus virginiana	'Schubert' 'Canada Red'
Deciduous Holly	Ilex decidua	
Elderberry	Sambucus canadensis	
Fragrant Sumac	Rhus aromatica	'Gro-Low'
Golden Currant	Ribes odoratum	'Crandall' 'Gwen's Buffalo'
Indigo Bush	Amorpha fruticosa	
Lead Plant	Amorpha canescens	
Leatherwood	Dirca palustris	
Nannyberry Viburnum	Viburnum lentago	
New Jersey Tea	Ceanothus americanus	
Ninebark	Physocarpus opulifolius	'Jefam'
Prairie Willow	Salix humilis	
Rusty Blackhaw	Viburnum rufidulum	
Shrubby St. John's Wort	Hypericum prolificum	
Spicebush	Lindera benzoin	
Strawberry Bush	Euonymus americanus	
Vernal Witch Hazel	Hamamelis vernalis	
Virginia Sweetspire	Itea virginica	'Fizzy Mizzy' 'Scentlandia' 'Little Henry' 'Henry's Garnet' 'Merlot'
Wahoo	Euonymus atropurpureus	
Wild Hydrangea	Hydrangea arborescens	'Annabelle' 'Grandiflora' 'Abetwo' 'NACH1' 'Dardom' 'Haas Halo' 'Hayes Starburst' 'Incrediball' 'Invincibelle Ruby'
Winged Sumac	Rhus copallinum	'Morton'
Winterberry Holly	Ilex verticillata	'Cacapon' 'Shaver' 'Sparkleberry' 'Sunset' 'Winter Gold' 'Winter Red'
Witch Hazel	Hamamelis virginiana	x intermedia 'Arnold Promise' 'Diane'
Evergreen Trees		
Eastern Red Cedar	Juniperus virginiana	'Glauca' 'Blue Mountain' 'Burkii' 'Canaertii' ' Cupressifolia' 'Grey Owl' 'Taylor'
Shortleaf pine	Pinus echinata	
American Holly	Ilex opaca	
Thuja/Arborvitea	Thuja occidentalis	'Golden Globe' 'Golden Tuffet' 'Woodwardii' 'American Pillar' 'Globosa Aurea' 'Rheingold' 'Danica' 'Green Giant' 'Smaragd' 'Degroot's Spire' 'Anna's Magic Ball' 'Filips Magic Moment' 'Polar Gold'

White Pine	Pinus strobus	'Fastigiata' 'Alba' 'Pendula' 'Nana' 'Macopin' 'Sea Urchin' 'Torulosa' 'Verkade's Broom'
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Native – But Not Recommended

Common Name	Scientific Name
Alternate-leaved dogwood (Pagoda Dogwood)	Cornus alternifolia
American Jointweed	Polygonum americanum
American Snowbell	Styrax americanus
American Spikenard	Aralia racemosa
Box Elder	Acer negundo
Coralberry	Symphoricarpos orbiculatus
Corkwood	Leitneria floridana
Cottonwood	Populus deltoides
Fringetree	Chionanthus virginicus
Gray dogwood (stiff dogwood)	Cornus foemina
Green Ash	Fraxinus pennsylvanica
Hercules' Club	Aralia spinosa
Indian Cherry; Carolina Buckthorn	Rhamnus caroliniana
Lanceleaf Buckthorn	Rhamnus lanceolata
Littlehip Hawthorn	Crataegus spathulata
Locust, Black Locust, Rose Acacia	Robinia Fabaes
Missouri Gooseberry	Ribes missouriense
Mulberry	Morus Urticales
Parsley Hawthorn	Crataegus marshallii
Pasture Rose	Rosa carolina
Prairie Red Root	Ceanothus herbaceus
Rough Leaf Dogwood	Cornus drummondii
Scarlet Elder; Red Elderberry	Sambucus racemosa
Smooth Sumac	Rhus glabra
Southern Catalpa	Catalpa bignonioides
Swamp dogwood (silky dogwood; pale dogwood)	C. amomum
Sweetgum	Liquidambar styraciflua
Wafer Ash	Ptelea trifoliata
Western Soapberry	Sapindus drummondii
White Ash	Fraxinus americana

Invasive – DO NOT PLANT

Common Name	Scientific Name
Amur Bush Honeysuckle	Lonicera maackii
Autumn Clematis	Clematis terniflora
Autumn olive	Elaeaagnus umbellata
Buddelia/ Butterfly Bush	Buddleja davidii
Burning Bush	Euonymus alatus
Callery Pear	Pyrus calleryana
Caucasian bluestem	Bothriochloa bladhii
European/common Buckthorn	Rhamnus cathartica
Heavenly Bamboo	Nandina domestica
Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica
Japanese stilt grass	Microstegium vimineum
Japanese Vining Honeysuckle	Lonicera japonica
Japanese/European Barberry	Berberis thunbergii
Morrow's Bush Honeysuckle	Lonicera morrowii
Purple loosestrife	Lythrum salicaria
Rose of Sharon	Hibiscus syriacus
Sericea lespedeza	Lespedeza cuneata
Star of Bethlehem	Ornithogalum umbellatum
Tree of Heaven	Ailanthus altissima
Wintercreeper	Euonymus fortunei
Yellow bluestem	Bthriochloa ischaemum

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Appendix B.2: Great Trees for the Kansas City Region

This guide shall be used to choose street tree and landscape materials. This list can be managed and supplemented by City Staff from time to time and administered through more specific landscape, street scape and site design recommendation through the development review process.

THE TREE LIST

Comprehensive Tree List For The Kansas City Region

(As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)

A study by Robert Whitman RLA, AICP, LEED AP

The Tree List: For The Kansas City Region (As Rated By Metropolitan Area Experts) was a study conducted by Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP, in which Kansas City area tree experts were asked to provide numerical ratings for over 380 trees in multiple categories. These ratings were averaged to determine the highest rated trees for each category. Some trees and categories have been added since that original study to provide additional information for users. This list shows all typically available trees, good and bad, to provide users with information on most tree options.

Study Participants:

Alan Branhagen, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens (former); **Bob Haines**, Arborist (dec.); **Cheryl Boyer**, Assistant Professor, K-State Extension; **Chip Winslow**, FASLA, KSU Department of Landscape Architecture (retired); **Chris Casebeer**, Green Valley Nursery; **Dan Simmons**; **Dennis Patton**, Johnson County Extension Agent; **Ivan Katzer**, Consulting Arborist; **Kevin Smith**, Forester, Johnson County Parks & Recreation (retired); **Mark Young**, Country Club Tree Service; **Michael Dougherty**, Tree Management Company; **Robert Whitman**, Landscape Architect, Multistudio; **Scott Reiter**, Linda Hall Library (dec.); **Susan Mertz**, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens; **Tim McDonnell**, Forester, Kansas Forest Service; and **Tory Schwope**, KAT Nurseries

Comprehensive Tree List For The Kansas City

KEY

- * = Recommended Tree for the KC Region for general landscape use in favorable conditions and sites.
- Native Status = Trees native to local KC, the region near KC, distance U.S. areas or invasive trees to the area.
- Ratings = As scored by local experts. Some cultivars grouped and averaged with new trees added.
- Height/Lifespan/Comments = As scored/commented by local experts. Ecosystem Services added.

- 😊 = Super tree for this situation
- 🙂 = Good tree for this situation
- 😐 = Marginal tree for this situation
- 😞 = Poor tree for this situation

Native Status	General Landscape Recommended	Tree Name	Rating						Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	Comments
			Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services				
	*	<i>Acer buergerianum</i> - Trident Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Good urban tree, not hardy north of KC.	
		<i>Acer campestre</i> - Hedge Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	60	Compact form, dark green leaf, tolerates high pH	
		<i>Acer campestre</i> 'JFS Shichtel2' - Streetside Hedge Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	60	Narrow cultivar, 'Metro Gold' is less hardy.	
Invasive		<i>Acer ginnala</i> - Amur Maple	😐	😐	😊	😊	😞	20	40	Self-seeds, 'Flame' is common cultivar.	
	*	<i>Acer griseum</i> - Paperbark Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Great fall color, dramatic exfoliating bark.	
	*	<i>Acer miyabei</i> - Miyabe Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😐	40	65	Durable, pale yellow fall color.	
	*	<i>Acer miyabei</i> 'JFS-KW3AMI' - Rugged Ridge Miyabe Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😐	55	65	More narrow than species, also: 'State Street'.	
Local		<i>Acer negundo</i> - Boxelder	😞	😞	😊	😞	😊	50	25	Fast, weak wooded. Best for natural areas.	
		<i>Acer palmatum</i> - Japanese Maple	😊	😞	😐	😐	😊	20	35	Only for protected sites. Common cultivars: 'Fireglow', 'Sango Kaku'.	
	*	<i>Acer palmatum</i> 'Bloodgood' - Red-leaf Japanese Maple	😊	😞	😞	😐	😊	20	35	Good red foliage variety, for protected sites.	
		<i>Acer palmatum</i> var. 'dissectum' - Lanceleaf Japanese Maple	😊	😞	😞	😐	😊	10	25	Shrubby cutleaf type.	
		<i>Acer platanoides</i> - Norway Maple	😐	😊	😐	😊	😊	50	50	Poor performer, invasive on east coast.	
		<i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Crimson King' - Purple leaf Norway Maple	😐	😊	😞	😊	😊	35	50	Poor performer, fades to green thru season.	
Region		<i>Acer rubrum</i> - Red Maple	😞	😊	😐	😐	😊	50	45	Subject to bark damage, shallow rooter, all red maples are way overplanted.	
Region		<i>Acer rubrum</i> - Red Maple cultivars	😐	😊	😐	😐	😊	50	45	Same issues as species, but with more refined features. Common cultivars: 'Autumn Flame', 'Bowhall', 'October Glory', 'Red Sunset', 'Summer Red', 'Sun Valley'.	
Region		<i>Acer x freemanii</i> (Red Maple x Silver Maple cross)	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	40	Overplanted, fast rowing, good fall color, structural issues, common cultivars: 'Autumn Blaze', 'Armstrong', 'Celebration', 'Indian Summer', 'Matador'.	
Local		<i>Acer saccharinum</i> - Silver Maple	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	70	40	Fast grower, weak wooded, best for natural areas.	
Local	*	<i>Acer saccharum</i> 'Sugar Maple	😊	😊	😐	😊	😊	50	70	Good maple for irrigated sites & quality soils, common cultivars: 'Fall Fiesta', 'Bonfire', 'Green Mountain', 'Oregon Trail', 'Legacy'.	
Region	*	<i>Acer saccharum</i> v. <i>Caddo</i> - Caddo Sugar Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	40	70	Native variety to region, good selection for dry sites, common cultivars: 'Autumn Splendor', 'Flashfire', 'John Pair'.	

The Tree List: Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)
 © Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP | Robert.Whitman@Multi.studio

Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	General Landscape Recommended		Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	
		<i>Acer tartaricum</i> - Tatarian Maple	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	20	30	Durable substitute to A. ginnala.
		<i>Acer tartaricum</i> 'GarAnn' - Hot Wings Tatarian Maple	😊	😊	😊	😞	😊	20	30	Common cultivars: 'Hot Wings', 'Rugged Charm', 'Pattern Perfect' selected for enhanced fall color or seed vibrance.
	★	<i>Acer truncatum</i> - Shantung Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	25	70	Excellent small tree for KC.
	★	<i>Acer x truncatum</i> - Sunset Maple cultivars	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	80	Medium size durable tree. Common cultivars: 'Pacific Sunset', 'Norwegian Sunset', 'Urban Sunset', 'Crimson Sunset'.
Region		<i>Aesculus flava</i> (octandra) - Yellow Buckeye	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	70	70	Good regional native, leaf scorch is common.
Local		<i>Aesculus glabra</i> - Ohio Buckeye	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊	30	70	Local native, early leaf drop reduces late summer shade benefits.
Local	★	<i>Aesculus glabra</i> var. <i>arguta</i> - Texas Buckeye	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	25	70	More drought tolerant variety.
		<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i> 'Baumannii' - Common Horsechestnut	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	70	70	Fruitless cultivar, summer leaf scorch in KC.
Region	★	<i>Aesculus pavia</i> - Red Buckeye	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	15	50	Small tree, will bloom in shade. Buy in bloom to ensure best bloom quality.
Hybrid	★	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i> - Red Horsechestnut	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	30	65	Vibrant red bloom, larger than A. pavia. Common cultivar: 'O'Neill's Red'.
Invasive		<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> - Tree of Heaven	😞	😞	😊	😞	😞	50	20	Invasive, exotic weed.
Invasive		<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> var. <i>rosea</i> - Mimosa	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	20	20	Short lived, self-seeds freely.
		<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> - Black Alder	😞	😊	😞	😞	😞	50	35	Tough, durable tree, especially in wet areas. May become invasive in wetland areas only.
Local		<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> - Downy Serviceberry	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	20	30	Needs perfect soil, Short bloom time, nice fall color.
Region		<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> - Shadblow Serviceberry	😊	😞	😊	😊	😊	10	45	Shrubby form not often in the trade.
Region		<i>Amelanchier leavis</i> - Allegheny Serviceberry	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	20	25	Not common in the trade.
Local	★	<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i> 'Autmn Brilliance' - Apple Serviceberry	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	20	40	Most common in trade, single trunk trees often sucker, making multi-stem plants preferred. Also 'Robin Hill' cultivar.
Region		<i>Aralia spinosa</i> - Devil's Walkingstick	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	15	20	Thorny native with an exotic appearance. Good late season nectar & wildlife fruit.
Local		<i>Asimina triloba</i> - Pawpaw	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	20	25	Tasty fruit, plant in multiples for fruit production, will sucker/colonize. Best for naturalized landscapes.
U.S.		<i>Betula lenta</i> - Sweet Birch	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	50	50	Not common in the trade.
Local		<i>Betula nigra</i> - River Birch	😞	😞	😊	😞	😞	70	40	Shallow rooting, pH concerns, messy. Grows larger than expected, best in natural areas.
Local		<i>Betula nigra</i> 'Fox Valley' - Little King River Birch	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	15	25	Interesting dwarf multi-stem tree.
Local		<i>Betula nigra</i> 'Heritage' - Heritage River Birch	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	70	40	Better than species for landscapes, 'Dura-Heat' not recommended.
U.S.		<i>Betula papyrifera</i> - Paper Birch	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	50	10	White bark, borer issues, not successful in KC.
		<i>Betula pendula</i> - European White Birch	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	50	10	White bark with weeping form, borer issues.
		<i>Betula platyphylla</i> 'Whitespire' - Whitespire Japanese White Birch	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	30	10	Slightly better borer resistance, but not well suited to KC soils and climate.

The Tree List: Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)
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		<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i> - Paper Mulberry	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	45	10	Fast grower, but somewhat invasive.
	★	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> - European Hornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	65	Clean shade tree that is underused.
	★	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata' - Upright Hornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Durable upright tree. Also 'Frans Fontaine'.
U.S.	★	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> - American Hornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Good shade tree alternative.
Local		<i>Carya cordiformis</i> - Bitternut Hickory	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	65	90	Durable native nut tree.
Local		<i>Carya illinoensis</i> - Pecan	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	90	Durable native nut tree.
Local		<i>Carya laciniata</i> - Shellbark Hickory	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	60	90	Durable native nut tree.
Local		<i>Carya ovata</i> - Shagbark Hickory	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	55	90	Durable native nut tree with interesting bark.
		<i>Castanea mollissima</i> - Chinese Chestnut	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	70	Nice tree, but messy spiny seed husks.
		<i>Catalpa ovata</i> - Chinese Catalpa	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	😊	40	30	Not as nice as the native Catalpa.
Region		<i>Catalpa speciosa</i> - Northern Catalpa	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	45	80	Durable, abundant flower, messy.
Local		<i>Celtis leavigata</i> - Sugarberry	☹️	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	65	Sim. To hackberry, smooth bark, less hardy.
Local		<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> - Hackberry	☹️	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	80	Large native tree, durable but less strength than similar size oaks.
Local		<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> 'JFS-KSU' - Prairie Sentinel Hackberry	☹️	😊	😊	😊	😊	45	80	Good columnar tree for challenging soils/sites.
		<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i> - Katsuratree	😊	😊	☹️	😊	😊	50	35	Not a durable selection for KC, needs excellent draining soils.
Local	★	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> - Redbud	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	18	30	Common native, prefers understory, but can do well on most sites.
Region	★	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> v. <i>texensis</i> - Oklahoma Redbud	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	18	30	Thicker foliage and enhanced tolerance of extremes.
	★	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i> - Chinese Fringe Tree	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	15	45	Tighter bloom, thicker leaf than native species.
U.S.	★	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> - White Fringe Tree	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	12	35	Good small or multi-trunk tree.
Region	★	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i> (lutea) - Yellowwood	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	50	Great bloom and smooth bark.
Region		<i>Cornus alternifolia</i> - Pagoda Dogwood	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	15	20	Interesting regional native with open bloom.
	★	<i>Cornus controversa</i> 'June Snow' - June Snow Giant Dogwood	😊	😊	😊	☹️	😊	30	25	Excellent form small tree for good or better soils
Region	★	<i>Cornus florida</i> - White Flowering Dogwood	😊	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	15	40	Missouri state tree, native just east of KC, only for good, draining soils. Common cultivars: 'Rubrum', 'Cherokee Princess', 'Princess Emily'.
	★	<i>Cornus kousa</i> - Kousa Dogwood	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	40	More durable than natives for KC, common cultivars: 'Scarlet Fire', 'Stellar Pink', 'Celestial', 'Radiant Rose', 'Milky Way'.
	★	<i>Cornus mas</i> - Corneliancherry Dogwood	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	16	50	Edible fruit, very early yellow bloom.
		<i>Corylus colurna</i> - Turkish Hazel	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	70	Very durable tree, medium size.
		<i>Cotinus coggygia</i> 'Royal Purple' - Purple Smoketree	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	15	30	Purple leaf, bushy habit, short lived.
Region		<i>Cotinus obovatus</i> - Chittamwood	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	25	40	Uncommon species, interesting character.

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		<i>Cotinus x 'Grace' - Grace Smoketree</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	20	40	Excellent fall color, good option to 'Royal Purple'.
		<i>Crataegus ambigua - Russian Hawthorn</i>	😞	😊	😊	😊	😞	20	50	Tough, good north and west of KC.
Local		<i>Crataegus crus-galli - Cockspur Hawthorn</i>	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	20	20	Cockspur, Autumn Glory, Downy, Washington, Winter King are not recommended.
Local		<i>Diospyros virginiana - Persimmon</i>	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊	50	65	Best in natural areas or for fruit and course bark texture.
Invasive		<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia - Russian Olive</i>	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	20	15	Invasive, not used anymore, short lived.
	★	<i>Eucommia ulmoides - Hardy Rubber Tree</i>	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	40	50	Tough medium size tree, cultivar: 'Emerald Prairie'
Local		<i>Euonymus atropurpureus - Eastern Wahoo</i>	😞	😞	😊	😞	😊	15	20	Woodland shrubby tree, short lived.
U.S.		<i>Fagus grandifolia - American Beech</i>	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	50	65	Not well suited to KC.
		<i>Fagus sylvatica - European Beech</i>	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	50	60	Performs poorly due to KC climate stresses.
Local		<i>Fraxinus sp. - Ash</i>	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	70	5	Emerald ash borer has made this tree unusable.
		<i>Ginkgo biloba - Ginkgo</i>	😞	😞	😊	😊	😞	70	100+	Only use known cultivars to ensure a male, fruitless tree.
	★	<i>Ginkgo biloba - Ginkgo cultivars</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	Low ecological value, beautiful, long lived tree, protect from bark damage. Common cultivars: 'Princeton Sentry', 'Autumn Gold', 'Magyar', 'Shangri-La', 'Presidential Gold'.
Local		<i>Gleditsia triacanthos - Honeylocust</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	65	Use cultivars for thornless and seedless character, protect trunk during moving/planting to reduce canker issues, Common cultivars: Shademaster, 'Street Keeper', 'Imperial', Skyline
Local	★	<i>Gymnocladus dioicus - Kentucky Coffeetree</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	95	Very tough species, Common fruitless cultivars: 'Expresso', 'Decaf'.
U.S.		<i>Halesia carolina - Silverbell</i>	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	20	20	Not well suited to KC, needs highly organic soil.
Region	★	<i>Hamamelis virginiana - Common Witchhazel</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	20	35	Very early yellow bloom, underused, shrubby.
		<i>Hamamelis x intermedia 'Arnold Promise' - Arnold Promise Witchhazel</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	15	35	Good non-native shrubby small tree.
	★	<i>Heptacodium miconioides - Seven-Son Flower</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	8	30	Very late bloom and racemes for autumn interest, multi-trunk tree.
Local		<i>Juglans nigra - Black Walnut</i>	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Durable very long lived, will poison soil for other plants, messy, best for natural areas.
Invasive		<i>Koelreuteria paniculata - Golden Raintree</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	70	70	Freely self-seeds, tough, good summer bloom.
Region		<i>Liquidambar styraciflua - Sweetgum</i>	😞	😞	😊	😊	😞	50	70	Durable. Very messy, spiky seed husks. Some cultivars have fewer seeds but none are seedless.
Region		<i>Liquidambar styra. 'Slender Silhouette' - Columnar Sweetgum</i>	😞	😊	😊	😞	😞	50	60	Very narrow columnar tree.
U.S.		<i>Liriodendron tulipifera - Tuliptree</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	55	70	An excellent option for fast growth rate.
		<i>Maackia amurensis - Amur Maackia</i>	😞	😊	😊	😊	😞	20	50	Durable, good mid-summer bloom. Cultivar: 'Starburst'.
Region		<i>Maclura pomifera - Osage Orange</i>	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	50	100+	Very, very durable. Thorns and large, messy fruit make the true species hard to use.

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Native Status	General Landscape Recommended	Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)		
Region	*	<i>Maclura pomifera</i> - Thornless/Fruitless Osage Orange	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	100+	Cultivars: 'White Shield', 'Wichita'. Excellent tree for difficult planting sites.
U.S.		<i>Magnolia acuminata</i> - Cucumber Tree	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	70	40	A large shade tree that deserves more use.
U.S.	*	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i> 'Butterflies' - Butterflies Magnolia	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	20	40	Vibrant yellow magnolia bloom. Also: 'Yellow Bird'.
U.S.		<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> - Southern Magnolia	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	35	75	Interesting evergreen tree only use cold hardy cultivars: Bracken's Brown', 'Edith Bogue'.
	*	<i>Magnolia liliiflora x stellata</i> - Jane Magnolia	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	10	55	Good small magnolias with slightly later bloom than Star Magnolia. Cultivars: Ann, Betty, Jane.
U.S.		<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i> - Big Leaf Magnolia	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	30	30	Interesting specimen with very large leaves.
		<i>Magnolia stellata</i> - Star Magnolia	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	15	60	Proven small magnolia. Cultivar: 'Royal Star'.
U.S.	*	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> - Sweetbay Magnolia	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	15	55	Fragrant, durable semi-evergreen, multi-trunk. Cultivar: 'Moonglow'.
		<i>Magnolia x galaxy</i> - Galaxy Magnolia	😞	😞	😊	😞	😞	20	25	Red-pink bloom, option for Saucer Magnolia.
		<i>Magnolia x loebneri</i> 'Merrill' - Merrill Magnolia	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	25	60	Option for Saucer Magnolia.
		<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i> - Saucer Magnolia	😞	😞	😊	😊	😞	30	85	A proven long-lived Magnolia, blooms may freeze out. Cultivar: 'Rustica Red'.
		<i>Malus cultivars</i> - Crabapple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	40	Many colors and characteristics. All not equal. Common cultivars: 'Coralburst', 'Perfect Purple', 'Prairiefire', 'Royal Raindrops', 'Spring Snow', 'Sugartyme', 'Velvet Pillar', 'Red Jewell'.
		<i>Malus floribunda</i> - Japanese Crabapple	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	20	40	Specimen tree with good disease resistance.
		<i>Malus hupehensis</i> - Tea Crabapple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	15	55	Short, wide spreading flowering crabapple.
	*	<i>Malus sargentii</i> - Sargent Crabapple	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	10	40	Very horizontal spreading character. Cultivars: 'Firebird', 'Tina'.
	*	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i> - Dawn Redwood	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	70	95	Option to bald cypress, Interesting deciduous needled conifer.
Invasive		<i>Morus alba</i> - Common Mulberry	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	8	50	Terrible invasive weed, tasty fruit.
Local		<i>Morus rubra</i> - Red Mulberry	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	50	70	Good native small woodland tree.
Region		<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> - Blackgum	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	40	75	Species is variable, cultivar is recommended.
Region	*	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> - Blackgum cultivars	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	40	75	'Wildfire' is well proven. Common cultivars: 'Red Rage', 'Afterburner', 'Firestarter', 'Green Gable'.
Local	*	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i> - Amer. Hophornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	40	95	Good native woodland tree. Cultivar: 'Autumn Treasure'.
U.S.		<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i> - Sourwood	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	30	25	Not well suited to our climate and soils, beautiful otherwise.
	*	<i>Parrotia persica</i> - Persian Parrotia	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	25	65	Excellent fall color, flower often freezes. Makes a good small shrubby tree.
Invasive		<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> - Royal Paulownia Empress Tree	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	30	20	Weak wooded and invasive.
		<i>Phellodendron amurense</i> - Amur Corktree	😞	😊	😊	😊	😞	30	60	Low value and not recommended.
		<i>Pistacia chinensis</i> - Chinese Pistache	😞	😊	😞	😞	😞	30	35	Not fully hardy in KC, good fall color.
Local		<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> - Sycamore	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Very large native tree, best for large sites or grand boulevards, prone to anthracnose, messy.

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		<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i> 'Morton Circle' - Exclamation Planetree	☹️	😊	😊	😊	☹️	70	95	Exclamation cultivar has a refined pyramidal form, better fungus resistance than others, but not native.
		<i>Populus alba</i> - White Poplar	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	50	25	Trash tree that suckers excessively.
Local		<i>Populus deltoides</i>	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	80	40	Kansas state tree, very fast growing, messy, very large. 'Siouxland' cultivar is a seedless male, but less vigorous.
		<i>Populus tremula</i> 'Erecta' - Columnar Swedish Aspen	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	40	20	Used to replace the old Lombardy Poplar.
U.S.		<i>Populus tremuloides</i> - Quaking Aspen	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	35	15	Best suited to the mountains.
Region		<i>Populus tremuloides</i> 'NE Arb' - Prairie Gold Aspen	😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	35	25	Native to central Nebraska and better adapted to KC. Allow to sucker in colonies so use only in landscapes where this is appropriate.
		<i>Prunus americana</i> - American Plum	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	😊	15	25	Forms in colonies, best for natural landscapes.
		<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Newport' - Newport Plum	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	15	10	Very sort lived, not recommended.
		<i>Prunus sargentii</i> - Sargent Cherry	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	50	20	Ornamental cherries generally perform poorly in KC.
Local		<i>Prunus serotina</i> - Black Cherry	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	😊	20	45	Large native tree that has high ecosystem benefits.
		<i>Prunus serrulata</i> 'Kwanzan' - Japanese Flowering Cherry	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	20	15	A moderate performing ornamental cherry for KC.
		<i>Prunus subhirtella</i> 'Pendula' - Weeping Cherry	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	8	10	A moderate performing weeping cherry in KC.
Local		<i>Prunus virginiana</i> 'Canada Red' - Canadian Red Chokecherry	☹️	😊	😊	☹️	😊	20	25	Useful for late purple foliage color, durable but not long lived.
		<i>Prunus x cistina</i> - Cistina Plum	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	15	10	Short-lived small purple leaf plum.
		<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i> - Yoshino Cherry	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊	10	15	Beautiful, traditional cherry, but not durable.
		<i>Pseudocodynia sinensis</i> - Chinese Quince	😊	😊	😊	😊	☹️	50	60	Interesting bark, subject to fireblight, not many old specimens in KC.
Invasive		<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> - Callery Pear	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️	12	20	Terrible invasive. Never plant ornamental pears and remove existing trees. Common cultivars: 'Bradford', 'Aristocrat', 'Capital', 'Cleveland', 'Chanticleer'.
		<i>Quercus acutissima</i> - Sawtooth Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	85	Susceptible to storm damage, many better oak options.
Local	✱	<i>Quercus alba</i> - White Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Queen of the shade trees, best for quality soils.
Local	✱	<i>Quercus bicolor</i> - Swamp White Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree for all large shade tree needs. Extremely high pH soils are a concern.
U.S.		<i>Quercus buckleyi</i> - Texas Red Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	85	May be a good option in higher pH soils.
Region	✱	<i>Quercus coccinea</i> - Scarlet Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	90	Excellent tree for average or better soils.
		<i>Quercus dendata</i> - Japanese Emperor Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	70	Interesting and rare oak.
Local		<i>Quercus imbricaria</i> - Shingle Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Holds most leaves thru winter which may be a concern where snow/ice melt is important, durable oak.
Region	✱	<i>Quercus lyrata</i> - Overcup Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree that needs more use.

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		<i>Quercus macdanielli</i> 'Clemons' - Heritage Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	90	Has non-native genes, heavy nut production.
Local	★	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> - Bur Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree for KC but has large nuts that may not be appropriate for urban sites.
Local		<i>Quercus marilandica</i> - Blackjack Oak	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	100+	Tough but very slow growing. Long lived and not in production.
Region		<i>Quercus michauxii</i> - Swamp Chestnut Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	70	100+	Similar to Chestnut Oak, but more tolerant of wet soils.
Local	★	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> - Chinkapin Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	60	100+	Excellent native, large and wide tree. Best for non-irrigated sites.
Region		<i>Quercus nigra</i> - Water Oak	😞	😊	😞	😊	😊	70	70	Becoming more hardy, holds green leaves late.
Region	★	<i>Quercus pagoda</i> - Cherrybark Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	70	90	Excellent tree, should be used more.
Local		<i>Quercus palustris</i> - Pin Oak	😞	😊	😞	😊	😊	45	90	Overused in the past, chlorosis issues in high pH soils, many better oak options.
Region		<i>Quercus phellos</i> - Willow Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	15	80	Northern strains have thrived, interesting narrow willow-like leaf.
U.S.	★	<i>Quercus prinus</i> (montana) - Chestnut Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	60	95	Very drought tolerant, needs good drainage.
		<i>Quercus robur</i> - English Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	70	85	Mildew issues, many superior oak options.
Local	★	<i>Quercus rubra</i> - Red Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Shumard may be better selection for urban sites
Local	★	<i>Quercus shumardii</i> - Shumard Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Excellent urban shade tree.
Local	★	<i>Quercus stellata</i> - Post Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	100+	Beautiful tree, slow growing with tiny acorns.
U.S.		<i>Quercus texana</i> - Nuttall Oak (Texas Red Oak)	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	70	75	Great urban tree that tolerates wet soils.
Local		<i>Quercus velutina</i> - Black Oak	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	85	Similar to red oak without the red fall color.
	★	<i>Quercus × bebbiana</i> - Bebb's Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Cross between White Oak & Burr Oak.
	★	<i>Quercus var.</i> - Columnar Types	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	45	85	Columnar oaks in the trade are excellent trees but are only partially native. Common cultivars: 'Kindred Spirit', 'Regal Prince', 'Scarlet Letter', 'Urban Pinnacle'.
Region		<i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i> - Carolina Buckthorn	😞	😞	😊	😞	😞	15	30	Durable native small tree, unkept appearance.
Invasive		<i>Rhamnus sp.</i> - Non-Native Buckthorn	😡	😡	😡	😡	😡	15	25	Invasive, remove existing trees.
U.S.		<i>Rhus typhina</i> - Staghorn Sumac	😞	😡	😊	😡	😊	12	15	Interesting massing plant, other sumac species are more shrublike in size.
Local		<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> - Black Locust	😡	😡	😊	😞	😊	50	35	Tough, mangy, fragrant blooms, few uses in the landscape due to suckering far from trunk.
		<i>Salix alba</i> - White Willow	😡	😡	😡	😡	😊	70	15	Invasive, exotic weed, somewhat weeping.
		<i>Salix babylonica</i> (sepulcralis) - Weeping Willow	😡	😡	😡	😡	😊	40	20	Messy, subject to winter injury, perfect near a pond but nowhere else.
U.S.		<i>Salix caprea</i> (discolor) - French Pussy Willow	😡	😡	😡	😡	😊	12	10	Fun, soft buds, subject to many heart rot and decay problems, shrubby.
		<i>Salix matsudana</i> 'Tortuosa', 'Snake' - Corkscrew Willow	😡	😡	😊	😡	😊	15	10	Interesting in the landscape, subject to many decay problems, shrubby. Also <i>S. alba</i> 'Tristis'.
Local		<i>Salix nigra</i> - Black Willow	😡	😡	😡	😡	😊	45	15	Best to stabilize stream banks, not in trade.

The Tree List: Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)
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Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	General Landscape Recommended		Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	
Region		<i>Sapindus drummondii</i> - Soapberry	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	60	Takes high pH and drought, but fruit is very messy, especially on cars.
Local		<i>Sassafras albidum</i> - Common Sassafras	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	35	35	Very hard to establish, great when able to grow.
Region		<i>Sideroxylon lanuginosum</i> - Gum Bumelia	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	40	40	Rugged tree accustomed to dry, rocky sites.
		<i>Sophora japonica</i> - Japanese Pagodatree	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	40	40	Canker and breakage issues, seed issues.
		<i>Sorbus alnifolia</i> - Korean Mountain Ash	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	35	15	Fireblight issues, interesting, but poor performance.
		<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> - European Mountain Ash	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	25	10	Heat & borers, needs a perfect site.
		<i>Stewartia pseudocamellia</i> - Japanese Stewartia	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	25	15	Very touchy, no trees make it to maturity in KC.
		<i>Styrax japonicus</i> - Japanese Snowbell	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	25	15	Very touchy, though beautiful when successful.
		<i>Styrax obassia</i> - Fragrant Snowbell	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	20	20	Similar to <i>S. japonicus</i> .
		<i>Syringa pekinensis</i> - Chinese Tree Lilac	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	30	50	Interesting bark texture, late spring bloom.
	✳️	<i>Syringa reticulata</i> 'Ivory Silk' - Japanese Tree Lilac	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	30	30	Durable blooming tree but not very long lived.
U.S.	✳️	<i>Taxodium ascendens</i> - Pond Cypress	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	Interesting fine foliage compared to bald cypress. Cultivar: 'Prairie Sentinel'.
U.S.	✳️	<i>Taxodium distichum</i> - Bald Cypress	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	70	100+	Great urban tree, interesting deciduous needled conifer, gets very large, grows knees on wet sites
U.S.		<i>Taxodium distichum</i> - Weeping Bald Cypress	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	10+	50	Stake to desired height, cultivars: 'Cascade Falls', 'Falling Water'.
U.S.	✳️	<i>Taxodium distichum</i> - Columnar Bald Cypress	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	'Shawnee Brave' is a wide columnar tree, 'Lindsey's Skyward' is a narrow columnar tree.
Local	✳️	<i>Tilia americana</i> - American Linden / Basswood	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	60	75	Native Linden/Basswood, excellent tree, not preferred by Japanese beetle, common cultivars: 'Boulevard', 'American Sentry'.
		<i>Tilia americana x euchlora</i> 'Redmond' - Redmond Linden	😞	😊	😞	😊	😊	50	55	Inferior cultivar to native species.
		<i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Greenspire' - Littleleaf Linden	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	50	55	Japanese Beetle food, Common cultivars: 'Greenspire', 'Corinthian', 'Summer Sprite', 'Shamrock', 'Glenleven'.
		<i>Tilia mongolica</i> - Mongolian Linden	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	65	Uncommon and underwhelming compared to other <i>Tilia</i> .
	✳️	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i> - Silver Linden	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	75	Excellent Linden, Cultivar: 'Sterling Silver'.
		<i>Tilia x euchlora</i> - Crimean Linden	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	65	Better than <i>T. cordata</i> , but not excellent.
Local		<i>Ulmus americana</i> - American Elm	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	70	30	Not viable because of Dutch elm disease (DED).
Local	✳️	<i>Ulmus americana</i> - American Elm cultivars	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	The king of urban trees past. Still excellent with DED resistant cultivars: 'Valley Forge', 'Princeton', 'Prairie Expedition', 'New Harmony'.
	✳️	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> - Lacebark Elm	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	60	Interesting bark, tough, fast growing, ice storm damage possible, cultivars: 'Allee', 'Emerald Prairie', 'Athena', 'Dynasty'.
Invasive		<i>Ulmus pumila</i> - Siberian Elm	😞	😞	😊	😊	😞	50	60	Terrible invasive used decades ago to replace DED affected elms, messy.
	✳️	<i>Ulmus x</i> - Hybrid Elm	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	80	Many excellent, durable complex elm clones: 'Frontier', 'Accolade', 'Triumph', 'Commendation', 'New Horizon', 'Patriot'.

The Tree List: Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)

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Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	General Landscape Recommended	Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)		
Region		<i>Viburnum lentago</i> - Nannyberry <i>Viburnum</i>	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	😊	15	25	A woodland small tree/shrub.
Local		<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i> - Rusty Blackhaw	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	😊	15	25	A good native woodland plant.
		<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Goshiki' - Variegated <i>Zelkova</i>	😊	😊	😊	☹️	☹️	50	40	Interesting, variegated cultivar, same size as species, rare but worth more use.
	✳️	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> - Japanese <i>Zelkova</i>	😊	😊	😊	☹️	☹️	50	40	Durable, fast growing urban tree with minimal ecological benefit. Common cultivars: 'Green Vase', 'Halka', 'Village Green'.
	✳️	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Musashino' - Columnar <i>Zelkova</i>	😊	😊	😊	☹️	☹️	50	40	Columnar selection of <i>Zelkova</i> .
		<i>Zizyphus jujube</i> - Chinese Date	☹️	☹️	😊	😊	☹️	20	50	Heat & drought tolerant, edible plum-like fruit.

THE TREE LIST

Great Landscape Trees

For The Kansas City Region

(As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)

A study by Robert Whitman RLA, AICP, LEED AP

The Tree List: For The Kansas City Region (As Rated By Metropolitan Area Experts) was a study conducted by Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP, in which Kansas City area tree experts were asked to provide numerical ratings for over 380 trees in multiple categories. These ratings were averaged to determine the highest rated trees for each category. Some trees and categories have been added since that original study to provide additional information for users. This list shows all typically available trees, good and bad, to provide users with information on most tree options.

Study Participants:

Alan Branhagen, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens (former); **Bob Haines**, Arborist (dec.); **Cheryl Boyer**, Assistant Professor, K-State Extension; **Chip Winslow**, FASLA, KSU Department of Landscape Architecture (retired); **Chris Casebeer**, Green Valley Nursery; **Dan Simmons**; **Dennis Patton**, Johnson County Extension Agent; **Ivan Katzer**, Consulting Arborist; **Kevin Smith**, Forester, Johnson County Parks & Recreation (retired); **Mark Young**, Country Club Tree Service; **Michael Dougherty**, Tree Management Company; **Robert Whitman**, Landscape Architect, Multistudio; **Scott Reiter**, Linda Hall Library (dec.); **Susan Mertz**, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens; **Tim McDonnell**, Forester, Kansas Forest Service; and **Tory Schwope**, KAT Nurseries

Great Landscape Trees For The Kansas City Region

KEY

- * = Recommended Tree for the KC Region for general landscape use in favorable conditions and sites.
- Native Status = Trees native to local KC, the region near KC, distance U.S. areas or invasive trees to the area.
- Ratings = As scored by local experts. Some cultivars grouped and averaged with new trees added.
- Height/Lifespan/Comments = As scored/commented by local experts. Ecosystem Services added.

- 😊 = Super tree for this situation
- 🙂 = Good tree for this situation
- 😐 = Marginal tree for this situation
- 😞 = Poor tree for this situation

Native Status	General Landscape Recommended	Tree Name	Rating							Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	Comments
			Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services					
	*	<i>Acer buergerianum</i> - Trident Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Good urban tree, not hardy north of KC.	
	*	<i>Acer griseum</i> - Paperbark Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Great fall color, dramatic exfoliating bark.	
	*	<i>Acer miyabei</i> - Miyabe Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	40	65	Durable, pale yellow fall color.	
	*	<i>Acer miyabei</i> 'JFS-KW3AMI' - Rugged Ridge Miyabe Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	55	65	More narrow than species, also: 'State Street'.	
	*	<i>Acer palmatum</i> 'Bloodgood' - Red-leaf Japanese Maple	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊	20	35	Good red foliage variety, for protected sites.	
Local	*	<i>Acer saccharum</i> 'Sugar Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	70	Good maple for irrigated sites & quality soils, common cultivars: 'Fall Fiesta', 'Bonfire', 'Green Mountain', 'Oregon Trail', 'Legacy'.	
Region	*	<i>Acer saccharum</i> v. <i>Caddo</i> - Caddo Sugar Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	40	70	Native variety to region, good selection for dry sites, common cultivars: 'Autumn Splendor', 'Flashfire', 'John Pair'.	
	*	<i>Acer truncatum</i> - Shantung Maple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	25	70	Excellent small tree for KC.	
	*	<i>Acer x truncatum</i> - Sunset Maple cultivars	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	80	Medium size durable tree. Common cultivars: 'Pacific Sunset', 'Norwegian Sunset', 'Urban Sunset', 'Crimson Sunset'.	
Local	*	<i>Aesculus glabra</i> var. <i>arguta</i> - Texas Buckeye	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	25	70	More drought tolerant variety.	
Region	*	<i>Aesculus pavia</i> - Red Buckeye	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	15	50	Small tree, will bloom in shade. Buy in bloom to ensure best bloom quality.	
Hybrid	*	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i> - Red Horsechestnut	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Vibrant red bloom, larger than <i>A. pavia</i> . Common cultivar: 'O'Neill's Red'.	
Local	*	<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i> 'Autumn Brilliance' - Apple Serviceberry	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	40	Most common in trade, single trunk trees often sucker, making multi-stem plants preferred. Also 'Robin Hill' cultivar.	
	*	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> - European Hornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	65	Clean shade tree that is underused.	
	*	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata' - Upright Hornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Durable upright tree. Also 'Frans Fontaine'.	
U.S.	*	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> - American Hornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	30	65	Good shade tree alternative.	
Local	*	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> - Redbud	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	18	30	Common native, prefers understory, but can do well on most sites.	
Region	*	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> v. <i>texensis</i> - Oklahoma Redbud	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	18	30	Thicker foliage and enhanced tolerance of extremes.	
	*	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i> - Chinese Fringe Tree	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	15	45	Tighter bloom, thicker leaf than native species.	
U.S.	*	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> - White Fringe Tree	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	12	35	Good small or multi-trunk tree.	

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Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	General Landscape Recommended		Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	
Region	✱	<i>Cladrastis kentukea (lutea) - Yellowwood</i>	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	50	50	Great bloom and smooth bark.
	✱	<i>Cornus controversa 'June Snow' - June Snow Giant Dogwood</i>	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	30	25	Excellent form small tree for good or better soils
Region	✱	<i>Cornus florida - White Flowering Dogwood</i>	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	15	40	Missouri state tree, native just east of KC, only for good, draining soils. Common cultivars: 'Rubrum', 'Cherokee Princess', 'Princess Emily'.
	✱	<i>Cornus kousa - Kousa Dogwood</i>	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	20	40	More durable than natives for KC, common cultivars: 'Scarlet Fire', 'Stellar Pink', 'Celestial', 'Radiant Rose', 'Milky Way'.
	✱	<i>Cornus mas - Corneliancherry Dogwood</i>	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	16	50	Edible fruit, very early yellow bloom.
	✱	<i>Eucommia ulmoides - Hardy Rubber Tree</i>	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	40	50	Tough medium size tree, cultivar: 'Emerald Prairie'
	✱	<i>Ginkgo biloba - Ginkgo cultivars</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	Low ecological value, beautiful, long lived tree, protect from bark damage. Common cultivars: 'Princeton Sentry', 'Autumn Gold', 'Magyar', 'Shangri-La', 'Presidential Gold'.
Local	✱	<i>Gymnocladus dioicus - Kentucky Coffeetree</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	95	Very tough species, Common fruitless cultivars: 'Expresso', 'Decaf'.
Region	✱	<i>Hamamelis virginiana - Common Witchhazel</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	20	35	Very early yellow bloom, underused, shrubby.
	✱	<i>Heptacodium miconioides - Seven-Son Flower</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	8	30	Very late bloom and racemes for autumn interest, multi-trunk tree.
Region	✱	<i>Maclura pomifera - Thornless/Fruitless Osage Orange</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	100+	Cultivars: 'White Shield', 'Wichita'. Excellent tree for difficult planting sites.
U.S.	✱	<i>Magnolia acuminata 'Butterflies' - Butterflies Magnolia</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😞	20	40	Vibrant yellow magnolia bloom. Also: 'Yellow Bird'.
	✱	<i>Magnolia liliiflora x stellata - Jane Magnolia</i>	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	10	55	Good small magnolias with slightly later bloom than Star Magnolia. Cultivars: Ann, Betty, Jane.
U.S.	✱	<i>Magnolia virginiana - Sweetbay Magnolia</i>	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	15	55	Fragrant, durable semi-evergreen, multi-trunk. Cultivar: 'Moonglow'.
		<i>Malus cultivars - Crabapple</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	40	Many colors and characteristics. All not equal. Common cultivars: 'Coralburst', 'Perfect Purple', 'Prairiefire', 'Royal Raindrops', 'Spring Snow', 'Sugartyme', 'Velvet Pillar', 'Red Jewell'.
	✱	<i>Malus sargentii - Sargent Crabapple</i>	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	10	40	Very horizontal spreading character. Cultivars: 'Firebird', 'Tina'.
	✱	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides - Dawn Redwood</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	70	95	Option to bald cypress, Interesting deciduous needled conifer.
Region	✱	<i>Nyssa sylvatica - Blackgum cultivars</i>	😊	😊	😞	😊	😞	40	75	'Wildfire' is well proven. Common cultivars: 'Red Rage', 'Afterburner', 'Firestarter', 'Green Gable'.
Local	✱	<i>Ostrya virginiana - Amer. Hophornbeam</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	40	95	Good native woodland tree. Cultivar: 'Autumn Treasure'.
	✱	<i>Parrotia persica - Persian Parrotia</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	25	65	Excellent fall color, flower often freezes. Makes a good small shrubby tree.
Local	✱	<i>Quercus alba - White Oak</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Queen of the shade trees, best for quality soils.
Local	✱	<i>Quercus bicolor - Swamp White Oak</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree for all large shade tree needs. Extremely high pH soils are a concern.
Region	✱	<i>Quercus coccinea - Scarlet Oak</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	90	Excellent tree for average or better soils.
Region	✱	<i>Quercus lyrata - Overcup Oak</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree that needs more use.

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Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	General Landscape Recommended	Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft.)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)		
Local	★	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> - Bur Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree for KC but has large nuts that may not be appropriate for urban sites.
Local	★	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> - Chinkapin Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	60	100+	Excellent native, large and wide tree. Best for non-irrigated sites.
Region	★	<i>Quercus pagoda</i> - Cherrybark Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	70	90	Excellent tree, should be used more.
U.S.	★	<i>Quercus prinus</i> (montana) - Chestnut Oak	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	60	95	Very drought tolerant, needs good drainage.
Local	★	<i>Quercus rubra</i> - Red Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Shumard may be better selection for urban sites
Local	★	<i>Quercus shumardii</i> - Shumard Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Excellent urban shade tree.
Local	★	<i>Quercus stellata</i> - Post Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	100+	Beautiful tree, slow growing with tiny acorns.
	★	<i>Quercus × bebbiana</i> - Bebb's Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Cross between White Oak & Burr Oak.
	★	<i>Quercus</i> var. - Columnar Types	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	45	85	Columnar oaks in the trade are excellent trees but are only partially native. Common cultivars: 'Kindred Spirit', 'Regal Prince', 'Scarlet Letter', 'Urban Pinnacle'.
	★	<i>Syringa reticulata</i> 'Ivory Silk' - Japanese Tree Lilac	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	30	30	Durable blooming tree but not very long lived.
U.S.	★	<i>Taxodium ascendens</i> - Pond Cypress	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	Interesting fine foliage compared to bald cypress. Cultivar: 'Prairie Sentinel'.
U.S.	★	<i>Taxodium distichum</i> - Bald Cypress	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	70	100+	Great urban tree, interesting deciduous needled conifer, gets very large, grows knees on wet sites
U.S.	★	<i>Taxodium distichum</i> - Columnar Bald Cypress	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	'Shawnee Brave' is a wide columnar tree, 'Lindsey's Skyward' is a narrow columnar tree.
Local	★	<i>Tilia americana</i> - American Linden / Basswood	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	60	75	Native Linden/Basswood, excellent tree, not preferred by Japanese beetle, common cultivars: 'Boulevard', 'American Sentry'.
	★	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i> - Silver Linden	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	75	Excellent Linden, Cultivar: 'Sterling Silver'.
Local	★	<i>Ulmus americana</i> - American Elm cultivars	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	The king of urban trees past. Still excellent with DED resistant cultivars: 'Valley Forge', 'Princeton', 'Prairie Expedition', 'New Harmony'.
	★	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> - Lacebark Elm	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	60	Interesting bark, tough, fast growing, ice storm damage possible, cultivars: 'Allee', 'Emerald Prairie', 'Athena', 'Dynasty'.
	★	<i>Ulmus x</i> - Hybrid Elm	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	80	Many excellent, durable complex elm clones: 'Frontier', 'Accolade', 'Triumph', 'Commendation', 'New Horizon', 'Patriot'.
	★	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> - Japanese Zelkova	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	50	40	Durable, fast growing urban tree with minimal ecological benefit. Common cultivars: 'Green Vase', 'Halka', 'Village Green'.
	★	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Musashino' - Columnar Zelkova	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	50	40	Columnar selection of Zelkova.

THE TREE LIST

Great Street Trees

For The Kansas City Region

(As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)

A study by Robert Whitman RLA, AICP, LEED AP

The Tree List: For The Kansas City Region (As Rated By Metropolitan Area Experts) was a study conducted by Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP, in which Kansas City area tree experts were asked to provide numerical ratings for over 380 trees in multiple categories. These ratings were averaged to determine the highest rated trees for each category. Some trees and categories have been added since that original study to provide additional information for users. This list shows all typically available trees, good and bad, to provide users with information on most tree options.

Study Participants:

Alan Branhagen, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens (former); **Bob Haines**, Arborist (dec.); **Cheryl Boyer**, Assistant Professor, K-State Extension; **Chip Winslow**, FASLA, KSU Department of Landscape Architecture (retired); **Chris Casebeer**, Green Valley Nursery; **Dan Simmons**; **Dennis Patton**, Johnson County Extension Agent; **Ivan Katzer**, Consulting Arborist; **Kevin Smith**, Forester, Johnson County Parks & Recreation (retired); **Mark Young**, Country Club Tree Service; **Michael Dougherty**, Tree Management Company; **Robert Whitman**, Landscape Architect, Multistudio; **Scott Reiter**, Linda Hall Library (dec.); **Susan Mertz**, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens; **Tim McDonnell**, Forester, Kansas Forest Service; and **Tory Schwope**, KAT Nurseries

Great Street Trees For The Kansas City Region

KEY

- * = Recommended Tree for the KC Region** for general landscape use in favorable conditions and sites.
- Native Status** = Trees native to **local KC**, the **region** near KC, **distance U.S.** areas or **invasive** trees to the area.
- Ratings** = As scored by local experts. Some cultivars grouped and averaged with new trees added.
- Height/Lifespan/Comments** = As scored/commented by local experts. Ecosystem Services added.

- = Super tree for this situation
- = Good tree for this situation
- = Marginal tree for this situation
- = Poor tree for this situation

Native Status	Under Power Lines	Tree Name	Rating							Mature Height (ft)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	Comments
			Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services					
	*	<i>Acer buergerianum</i> - Trident Maple							30	65	Good urban tree, not hardy north of KC.	
		<i>Acer campestre</i> - Hedge Maple							50	60	Compact form, dark green leaf, tolerates high pH	
		<i>Acer campestre</i> 'JFS Shichtel2' - Streetside Hedge Maple							35	60	Narrow cultivar, 'Metro Gold' is less hardy.	
	*	<i>Acer griseum</i> - Paperbark Maple							30	65	Great fall color, dramatic exfoliating bark.	
		<i>Acer miyabei</i> - Miyabe Maple							40	65	Durable, pale yellow fall color.	
		<i>Acer miyabei</i> 'JFS-KW3AMI' - Rugged Ridge Miyabe Maple							55	65	More narrow than species, also: 'State Street'.	
Local		<i>Acer saccharum</i> 'Sugar Maple							50	70	Good maple for irrigated sites & quality soils, common cultivars: 'Fall Fiesta', 'Bonfire', 'Green Mountain', 'Oregon Trail', 'Legacy'.	
Region		<i>Acer saccharum</i> v. <i>Caddo</i> - Caddo Sugar Maple							40	70	Native variety to region, good selection for dry sites, common cultivars: 'Autumn Splendor', 'Flashfire', 'John Pair'.	
	*	<i>Acer truncatum</i> - Shantung Maple							25	70	Excellent small tree for KC.	
		<i>Acer x truncatum</i> - Sunset Maple cultivars							35	80	Medium size durable tree. Common cultivars: 'Pacific Sunset', 'Norwegian Sunset', 'Urban Sunset', 'Crimson Sunset'.	
		<i>Carpinus betulus</i> - European Hornbeam							50	65	Clean shade tree that is underused.	
U.S.	*	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> - American Hornbeam							30	65	Good shade tree alternative.	
Region		<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i> (lutea) - Yellowwood							50	50	Great bloom and smooth bark.	
		<i>Corylus colurna</i> - Turkish Hazel							50	70	Very durable tree, medium size.	
	*	<i>Crataegus ambigua</i> - Russian Hawthorn							20	50	Tough, good north and west of KC.	
		<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i> - Hardy Rubber Tree							40	50	Tough medium size tree, cultivar: 'Emerald Prairie'	
		<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> - Ginkgo cultivars							50	100+	Low ecological value, beautiful, long lived tree, protect from bark damage. Common cultivars: 'Princeton Sentry', 'Autumn Gold', 'Magyar', 'Shangri-La', 'Presidential Gold'.	
Local		<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> - Honeylocust							70	65	Use cultivars for thornless and seedless character, protect trunk during moving/planting to reduce canker issues, Common cultivars: Shademaster, 'Street Keeper', 'Imperial', Skyline	
Local		<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i> - Kentucky Coffeetree							50	95	Very tough species, Common fruitless cultivars: 'Expresso', 'Decaf'.	

The Tree List: Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)
 © Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP | Robert.Whitman@Multi.studio

Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	Under Power Lines		Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	
	✱	<i>Maackia amurensis</i> - Amur Maackia	☹️	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	50	Durable, good mid-summer bloom. Cultivar: 'Starburst'.
Region	✱	<i>Maclura pomifera</i> - Thornless/Fruitless Osage Orange	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	100+	Cultivars: 'White Shield', 'Wichita'. Excellent tree for difficult planting sites.
	✱	<i>Malus cultivars</i> - Crabapple	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	20	40	Many colors and characteristics. All not equal. Common cultivars: 'Coralburst', 'Perfect Purple', 'Prairiefire', 'Royal Raindrops', 'Spring Snow', 'Sugartyme', 'Velvet Pillar', 'Red Jewell'.
		<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i> - Dawn Redwood	😊	😊	😊	😊	☹️	70	95	Option to bald cypress, Interesting deciduous needled conifer.
Region		<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> - Blackgum cultivars	😊	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	40	75	'Wildfire' is well proven. Common cultivars: 'Red Rage', 'Afterburner', 'Firestarter', 'Green Gable'.
Local		<i>Ostrya virginiana</i> - Amer. Hophornbeam	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	40	95	Good native woodland tree. Cultivar: 'Autumn Treasure'.
Local		<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> - Sycamore	☹️	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Very large native tree, best for large sites or grand boulevards, prone to anthracnose, messy.
		<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i> 'Morton Circle' - Exclamation Planetree	☹️	😊	😊	😊	☹️	70	95	Exclamation cultivar has a refined pyramidal form, better fungus resistance than others, but not native.
		<i>Pseudocarya sinensis</i> - Chinese Quince	😊	😊	😊	😊	☹️	50	60	Interesting bark, subject to fireblight, not many old specimens in KC.
Local		<i>Quercus alba</i> - White Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Queen of the shade trees, best for quality soils.
Local		<i>Quercus bicolor</i> - Swamp White Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree for all large shade tree needs. Extremely high pH soils are a concern.
U.S.		<i>Quercus buckleyi</i> - Texas Red Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	35	85	May be a good option in higher pH soils.
Region		<i>Quercus coccinea</i> - Scarlet Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	90	Excellent tree for average or better soils.
		<i>Quercus dendata</i> - Japanese Emperor Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	70	Interesting and rare oak.
Local		<i>Quercus imbricaria</i> - Shingle Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Holds most leaves thru winter which may be a concern where snow/ice melt is important, durable oak.
Region		<i>Quercus lyrata</i> - Overcup Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree that needs more use.
		<i>Quercus macdanielli</i> 'Clemons' - Heritage Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	90	Has non-native genes, heavy nut production.
Local		<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> - Bur Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Excellent tree for KC but has large nuts that may not be appropriate for urban sites.
Region		<i>Quercus michauxii</i> - Swamp Chestnut Oak	😊	😊	☹️	😊	😊	70	100+	Similar to Chestnut Oak, but more tolerant of wet soils.
Local		<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> - Chinkapin Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	60	100+	Excellent native, large and wide tree. Best for non-irrigated sites.
Region		<i>Quercus pagoda</i> - Cherrybark Oak	😊	😊	☹️	😊	😊	70	90	Excellent tree, should be used more.
U.S.		<i>Quercus prinus (montana)</i> - Chestnut Oak	😊	😊	☹️	😊	😊	60	95	Very drought tolerant, needs good drainage.
Local		<i>Quercus rubra</i> - Red Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Shumard may be better selection for urban sites
Local		<i>Quercus shumardii</i> - Shumard Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	Excellent urban shade tree.
Local		<i>Quercus stellata</i> - Post Oak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	100+	Beautiful tree, slow growing with tiny acorns.
U.S.		<i>Quercus texana</i> - Nuttall Oak (Texas Red Oak)	😊	😊	☹️	😊	😊	70	75	Great urban tree that tolerates wet soils.

The Tree List: Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)
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Tree Name		Rating							Comments	
Native Status	Under Power Lines		Landscape Value	Street Tree	Climate Adaptable	Drought Tolerant	Ecosystem Services	Mature Height (ft)	Exp. Lifespan (yrs.)	
		<i>Quercus × bebbiana - Bebb's Oak</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	100+	Cross between White Oak & Burr Oak.
		<i>Quercus var. - Columnar Types</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	45	85	Columnar oaks in the trade are excellent trees but are only partially native. Common cultivars: 'Kindred Spirit', 'Regal Prince', 'Scarlet Letter', 'Urban Pinnacle'.
	✱	<i>Syringa pekinensis - Chinese Tree Lilac</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	30	50	Interesting bark texture, late spring bloom.
	✱	<i>Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk' - Japanese Tree Lilac</i>	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	30	30	Durable blooming tree but not very long lived.
U.S.		<i>Taxodium ascendens - Pond Cypress</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	Interesting fine foliage compared to bald cypress. Cultivar: 'Prairie Sentinel'.
U.S.		<i>Taxodium distichum - Bald Cypress</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	70	100+	Great urban tree, interesting deciduous needled conifer, gets very large, grows knees on wet sites
U.S.		<i>Taxodium distichum - Columnar Bald Cypress</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	50	100+	'Shawnee Brave' is a wide columnar tree, 'Lindsey's Skyward' is a narrow columnar tree.
Local		<i>Tilia americana - American Linden / Basswood</i>	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	60	75	Native Linden/Basswood, excellent tree, not preferred by Japanese beetle, common cultivars: 'Boulevard', 'American Sentry'.
		<i>Tilia tomentosa - Silver Linden</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	75	Excellent Linden, Cultivar: 'Sterling Silver'.
Local		<i>Ulmus americana - American Elm cultivars</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	70	95	The king of urban trees past. Still excellent with DED resistant cultivars: 'Valley Forge', 'Princeton', 'Prairie Expedition', 'New Harmony'.
		<i>Ulmus parvifolia - Lacebark Elm</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	60	Interesting bark, tough, fast growing, ice storm damage possible, cultivars: 'Allee', 'Emerald Prairie', 'Athena', 'Dynasty'.
		<i>Ulmus x - Hybrid Elm</i>	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	50	80	Many excellent, durable complex elm clones: 'Frontier', 'Accolade', 'Triumph', 'Commendation', 'New Horizon', 'Patriot'.
		<i>Zelkova serrata - Japanese Zelkova</i>	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	50	40	Durable, fast growing urban tree with minimal ecological benefit. Common cultivars: 'Green Vase', 'Halka', 'Village Green'.
		<i>Zelkova serrata 'Musashino' - Columnar Zelkova</i>	😊	😊	😊	😞	😞	50	40	Columnar selection of Zelkova.

THE TREE LIST

Evergreen Trees

For The Kansas City Region

(As Rated by Metropolitan Area Experts)

A study by Robert Whitman ^{RLA, AICP, LEED AP}

The Tree List: Evergreen Trees For The Kansas City Region (As Rated By Metropolitan Area Experts) was a 2012-2013 study conducted by Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP, in which Kansas City region tree experts were asked to provide numerical opinions (0-5 ratings) in each category for evergreen trees they have tested/observed from a master list of 154 evergreen trees. These ratings were averaged to determine the tree ratings for each category.

Study Participants:

Alan Branhagen, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens; **Cameron Rees**, Skinner Garden Store; **Cheryl Boyer**, Assistant Professor, K-State Extension; **Chip Winslow**, FASLA, KSU Department of Landscape Architecture; **Chuck Conner**, Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation; **Dennis Patton**, Johnson County Extension Agent; **Don Mann**, Loma Vista Nursery; **Duane Hoover**, Horticulturist, Kauffman Memorial Garden; **Ivan Katzer**, Consulting Arborist; **Jason Griffin PhD**, KSU John C. Pair Horticultural Center; **Kim Bomberger**, Community Forester, Kansas Forest Service; **Marvin Snyder**, Past President, American Conifer Society; **Mic Mills**, Rosehill Gardens; **Michael Dougherty**, Tree Management Company; **Rick Spurgeon**, Olathe City Arborist; **Robert Whitman**, Landscape Architect, Multistudio; **Scott Reiter**, Linda Hall Library; **Susan Mertz**, Loma Vista Nursery; and **Tim McDonnell**, Forester, Kansas Forest Service

PINE TREES

KEY

- *** = Well Tested/Observed in Kansas City region
- ** = Somewhat Tested/Observed in Kansas City region
- * = Not Well Tested/Observed in Kansas City region (Buyer Beware)
- 😊 = Super tree for this condition
- 😬 = Fair tree for this condition
- 😞 = Poor tree for this condition
- 😱 = Very Poor tree for this condition
- ⊗ = Unknown

Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating							Comments
			As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	Lifespan		
**	15x9	<i>Pinus aristata</i> Bristlecone Pine	😞	😱	😞	😱	😬	😞	Needs excellent drainage, dislikes Kansas City humidity	
*	35x20	<i>Pinus ayacahuite</i> Mexican White Pine	😬	😊	😊	😊	😊	⊗	Limited experience, but shows promise	
**	35x22	<i>Pinus banksiana</i> Jack Pine	😱	😱	😬	😬	😬	😞	Pine wilt when under stress	
**	25x18	<i>Pinus bungeana</i> Lacebark Pine	😊	😬	😬	😞	😬	😬	Excellent performer with interesting bark	
*	22x11	<i>Pinus cembra</i> Swiss Stone Pine	😬	😞	😞	😱	😞	⊗	Limited local success, slow grower	
**	30x20	<i>Pinus densiflora</i> Japanese Red Pine	😬	😞	😬	😬	😬	😞	Some local success, very open habit	
**	14x12	<i>Pinus densiflora</i> 'Umbraculifera' Tabletop Pine	😊	😞	😬	😬	😬	😞	Some local success, interesting flattop specimen	
***	30x17	<i>Pinus flexilis</i> 'Vanderwolf's' Limber Pine	😬	😬	😬	😬	😬	😬	Green-blue color, can get needle blight	
*	35x20	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i> Korean Pine	😬	😬	😬	😊	😬	⊗	Loose form, some local success	
*	28x15	<i>Pinus leucodermis</i> Bosnian Pine	😬	😬	😬	😞	😊	⊗	Some local success, black pine replacement	
***	12x14	<i>Pinus mugo</i> Mugo Pine	😞	😱	😬	😬	😬	😬	Variation in size, pine wilt and scale problems	
*	12x7	<i>Pinus mugo</i> 'Tannenbaum' Tannenbaum Pine	😬	😞	😬	😬	😬	⊗	Attractive form, small pine alternative	
***	55x30	<i>Pinus nigra</i> Austrian Pine	😱	😱	😞	😊	😊	😱	Severe diplodia tip blight, short lived	
**	35x19	<i>Pinus parviflora</i> Japanese White Pine	😞	😞	😞	😬	😬	😬	Attractive pine, some local success	
***	50x30	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> Ponderosa Pine	😱	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊	Pine tip moth, fungal problems	
**	40x18	<i>Pinus resinosa</i> Red Pine	😱	😞	😱	😬	😞	😱	Too hot in KC for this pine	
**	40x25	<i>Pinus strobiformis</i> Southwestern White Pine	😬	😬	😬	😞	😊	😬	Performs well here and Southwest of KC	
***	60x30	<i>Pinus strobus</i> Eastern White Pine	😞	😬	😬	😬	😞	😊	Drought susceptible, chlorosis, good pine	
***	45x16	<i>Pinus strob.</i> 'Fastigiata' Columnar White Pine	😬	😬	😬	😬	😞	😊	Same as species but better for narrow sites	
***	45x25	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i> Scotch Pine	😱	😱	😞	😊	😬	😱	Pine wilt & root nematode, European sawfly	
*	50x25	<i>Pinus taeda</i> Loblolly Pine	😱	😞	😞	😊	😬	⊗	Cold, ice and high pH can cause problems	
**	25x15	<i>Pinus thunbergiana</i> Japanese Black Pine	😞	😱	😞	😬	😞	😞	Salt tolerant, ice damage, pine wilt	
*	30x15	<i>Pinus wallichiana</i> Himalayan Pine	😞	😬	😞	😬	😞	⊗	Needs more testing	

The Tree List: Evergreen Trees For the Kansas City Region (As Rated By Metropolitan Area Experts)
 A study by Robert Whitman, RLA, AICP, LEED AP | Robert.Whitman@Multi.studio

SPRUCE TREES

KEY	*** = Well Tested/Observed in Kansas City region	😊 = Super tree for this condition	😞 = Very Poor tree for this condition
	** = Somewhat Tested/Observed in Kansas City region	🙂 = Fair tree for this condition	✖ = Unknown
	* = Not Well Tested/Observed in Kansas City region (Buyer Beware)	😬 = Poor tree for this condition	

Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating						Comments
			As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	Lifespan	
***	60x30	<i>Picea abies</i> Norway Spruce	😊	😊	😊	😊	🙂	😊	Tough and proven spruce for KC
***	27x10	<i>Picea abies</i> 'Cupressina' Upright Norway Spruce	😊	😬	😊	😊	🙂	😊	Narrow and fast growing spruce
***	22x15	<i>Picea abies</i> v. pendula Weeping Norway Spruce	😊	😬	😊	😊	🙂	😊	Many specimen application options
**	30x14	<i>Picea breweriana</i> Brewer's Spruce	😞	😬	😞	😬	😞	😬	Tested with many failures
*	30x16	<i>Picea engelmannii</i> Engelmann Spruce	🙂	😞	🙂	😊	😊	✖	Not tolerant of KC heat or humidity
**	40x20	<i>Picea glauca</i> White Spruce	😬	😬	😞	😬	😞	😬	Poor heat tolerance
***	30x18	<i>Picea glauca</i> 'Densata' Black Hills Spruce	🙂	🙂	🙂	🙂	🙂	😬	Slow growing but performs well, dense form
**	18x4	<i>Picea glauca</i> 'Pendula' Weeping White Spruce	🙂	😞	🙂	🙂	😬	😬	Great specimen, good upright leader
**	20x9	<i>Picea mariana</i> 'Columnar' Columnar Black Spruce	😊	😬	🙂	😞	😞	😬	Blue-green foliage, slow growing
**	20x7	<i>Picea mariana</i> 'Wellspire' Columnar Black Spruce	😊	😬	🙂	😞	😞	😬	Upright form, soft needles, green color
**	40x16	<i>Picea omorika</i> Serbian Spruce	🙂	🙂	🙂	😬	😬	🙂	Blue-green color, performs well in irrigation
**	25x10	<i>Picea omorika</i> 'Bruns' Bruns Serbian Spruce	🙂	🙂	🙂	😬	😬	🙂	More narrow than species
**	22x8	<i>Picea omorika</i> 'Pendula' Weeping Serbian Spruce	😊	😬	🙂	😬	😬	🙂	Very attractive weeping specimen
***	25x12	<i>Picea omorika</i> 'Riverside' Upright Serbian Spruce	😊	🙂	🙂	😬	😬	🙂	Nice form with green color
*	25x15	<i>Picea orientalis</i> Oriental Spruce	😊	🙂	🙂	🙂	🙂	✖	Tiny needles
**	18x8	<i>Picea orientalis</i> 'Deer Run' Deer Run Spruce	😊	😬	🙂	🙂	🙂	🙂	Blue color, slow growing
*	18x9	<i>P. orientalis</i> 'Skylands' Yellow Oriental Spruce	🙂	😬	😬	😬	😬	✖	Yellow needles fade to green, will scorch
***	45x20	<i>Picea pungens</i> Colorado Spruce	🙂	🙂	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Not heat or drought tolerant, green needles
***	45x20	<i>Picea pungens</i> v. glauca Colorado Blue Spruce	🙂	🙂	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Same as species, but blue color
***	40x18	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Kosteri' Koster Blue Spruce	😊	😬	🙂	😞	😬	🙂	Blue color, not uniform or dense
*	15x8	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Baby Blue Eyes' Baby Blue Eyes Spruce	😊	🙂	😬	😞	😬	✖	Tidy, small mature size
**	25x14	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Bakeri' Bakeri Spruce	😊	🙂	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Good blue color
***	20x9	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Blue Totum' Col. Blue Spruce	🙂	😬	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Good blue color, snow/ice load is problem
**	20x10	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Fastigiata' Col. Blue Spruce	🙂	😬	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Good blue color, snow/ice load is problem
***	20x15	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Fat Albert' Fat Albert Blue Spruce	😊	🙂	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Excellent blue color and form
***	30x16	<i>Picea pungens</i> 'Hoopsii' Hoopsii Blue Spruce	😊	🙂	😬	😞	😬	🙂	Bluest spruce, more open form

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JUNIPER TREES

KEY

- *** = Well Tested/Observed in Kansas City region
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- 😡 = Very Poor tree for this condition
- ⊗ = Unknown

Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating							Comments
			As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	Lifespan		
*	20x12	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Wintergreen' Wintergreen Juniper	😞	😊	🙂	🙂	😊	⊗	Dense rich green	
**	16x9	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Blue Point' Blue Point Juniper	🙂	😊	🙂	😊	😊	🙂	Teardrop shape, blue-green color	
**	25x14	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Columnaris Glauca' Upright Blue Juniper	😞	😊	🙂	😊	😊	😞	Narrow, loose habit, silver-grey color	
***	16x9	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Hetzii Columnaris' Hetz Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	🙂	Green, heavy attractive cone production	
**	13x5	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Iowa' Iowa Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞	Green with blue tint, loose form	
***	20x13	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Keteleerii' Keteleerii Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Green with loose form, interesting unshed	
***	20x12	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Perfecta' Perfecta Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Natural freshly sheared look	
**	18x9	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Robusta Green' Upright Juniper	😞	😊	🙂	🙂	😊	🙂	Green, tufted form, slightly irregular	
***	20x9	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> 'Spartan' Spartan Juniper	🙂	😊	😊	😊	😊	🙂	Green, dense and narrow	
*	20x18	<i>Juniperus rigida</i> Temple Juniper	🙂	🙂	😊	😊	😊	⊗	Green, slightly weeping branchlets	
**	25x13	<i>J. scopulorum</i> 'Blue Haven' Blue Haven Juniper	😡	😞	😞	😡	😡	😡	Blue, striking color, heavy cone production	
***	20x7	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> 'Skyrocket' Skyrocket Juniper	😡	😡	😡	😞	🙂	😡	Blue, very narrow, poor performer	
***	18x8	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> 'Welchii' Welch Juniper	😡	😡	😡	😡	🙂	😡	Silvery blue-green, compact and dense	
***	20x10	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> 'Wichita Blue' Wichita Blue Juniper	😡	😞	😡	😞	🙂	😡	Brilliant bright blue, poor performer	
***	40x25	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> Eastern Red Cedar	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Our only native and most durable evergreen	
***	30x15	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Glaucua' Silver Eastern Red Cedar	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Silver hue and very durable	
*	15x5	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Blue Arrow' Blue Arrow Juniper	😞	🙂	😊	😊	😊	⊗	More narrow than 'Glaucua', not as durable	
**	25x14	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Burkii' Blue Burkii Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Steel-blue color, lacks interesting cones	
***	25x15	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Canaertii' Canaert Juniper	🙂	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Attractive lumpy form, proven durability	
**	20x12	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Cupressifolia' Hillspire Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Green, keeps winter color, durable	
**	23x10	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Emerald Sentinel' Emerald Sentinel Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Dark green color	
*	20x8	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Prairie Sentinel' Prairie Sentinel Juniper	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	⊗	Grey-green color, slower grower	
**	18x5	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Taylor' Taylor Upright Juniper	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	🙂	Italian cypress look, durable, species color	

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ARBORVITAE TREES

Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating						Comments
			As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	Lifespan	
***	25x15	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> Eastern Arborvitae	😞	😬	😞	😬	😞	😞	Needs irrigation, snow loads are a problem
**	18x4	<i>T. occ.</i> 'Degroot's Spire' Degroot's Spire Arborvitae	😬	😬	😞	😬	😞	😞	Best cultivar, otherwise same as species, slow
***	16x6	<i>T. occidentalis</i> 'Smaragd' Emerald Green Arborvitae	😞	😞	😞	😬	😞	😞	Overplanted and unloved by experts
**	20x7	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> 'Techny' Techny Arborvitae	😞	😞	😞	😬	😞	😞	Poor performer, slow growing
***	35x15	<i>Thuja x 'Green Giant'</i> Green Giant Arborvitae	😞	😊	😬	😬	😞	😞	Fast grower, drought problems, deer resistant
**	25x12	<i>Thuja x 'Spring Grove'</i> Spring Grove Arborvitae	😞	😬	😬	😬	😞	😞	Less vigorous than Green Giant, but similar
***	25x15	<i>Thuja orientalis</i> Oriental Arborvitae	😞	😬	😬	😬	😊	😊	Toughest arborvitae for challenging KC

FIR / YEW TREES

Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating						Comments
			As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	Lifespan	
*	40x18	<i>Abies balsamea</i> Balsam Fir	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	✖	Poor performance in KC
**	45x25	<i>Abies concolor</i> White Fir	😬	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	Beautiful, needs excellent drainage, variable
**	25x14	<i>Abies concolor</i> 'Candicans' Candicans Fir	😬	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	White-blue color very impressive
*	30x16	<i>Abies fraseri</i> Fraser Fir	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	✖	Very few good trees in KC, many failures
*	30x20	<i>Abies homolepis</i> Nikko Fir	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	✖	Very few good trees in KC, many failures
*	15x6	<i>Abies koreana</i> Korean Fir	😬	😞	😞	😬	😞	✖	Heat and drought sensitive
*	35x16	<i>Abies nordmanniana</i> Nordman Fir	😬	😞	😞	😬	😬	✖	Very few good trees, but shows promise
**	40x20	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> Douglas Fir	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	😬	Very few nice older specimens in KC
***	20x14	<i>Taxus cuspidata</i> 'Capitata' Pyramidal Japanese Yew	😬	😞	😬	😞	😞	😞	Great evergreen for shade, needs drainage
***	15x9	<i>Taxus x media</i> 'Hicksii' Hicks Upright Yew	😞	😊	😬	😞	😬	😊	More upright/round form than Cap Yew

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HOLLY / MAGNOLIA TREES (BROADLEAF EVERGREENS ONLY)

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Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating						Comments
			As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	Lifespan	
***	20x12	<i>Ilex x attenuata</i> 'Fosteri' Foster's #2 Holly	😊	😊	😊	😟	😟	😟	Needs winter wind protection
***	20x12	<i>Ilex x attenuata</i> 'Greenleaf' Greenleaf Holly	😊	😊	😟	😟	😟	😟	Chlorosis, needs winter wind protection
***	8x7	<i>Ilex x 'Blue Maid'</i> Blue Maid Holly	😞	😟	😊	😟	😞	😟	Needs winter wind protection
**	14x7	<i>Ilex x Centennial Girl'</i> Centennial Girl Holly	😟	😊	😊	😟	😞	😟	Needs winter wind protection
*	14x6	<i>Ilex x 'Dragon Lady'</i> Dragon Lady Holly	😟	😟	😟	😟	😟	✖	Rare to succeed in KC
**	6x5	<i>Ilex x 'Honey Maid'</i> Honey Maid Holly	😟	😞	😞	😟	😞	😞	Creamy white leaf margin, often fails
*	9x5	<i>Ilex x meserveae</i> 'Hackenfee' Castle Spire Holly	😊	😊	😊	😟	😞	✖	Good fruit production, needs male in area
*	9x5	<i>Ilex x meserveae</i> 'Hackenstar' Castle Wall Holly	😊	😊	😊	😟	😞	✖	Male pollinator for 'Castle Spire'
*	18x9	<i>Ilex x 'Nellie R. Stevens'</i> Nellie Stevens Holly	😟	😟	😞	😟	😞	✖	Needs shelter, but often killed to ground
***	35x18	<i>Ilex opaca</i> American Holly	😊	😊	😊	😟	😟	😊	Species is variable, but many old specimens
*	20x15	<i>Ilex penunculosa</i> Longstock Holly	😞	😞	😞	😊	😞	✖	Not heat or drought tolerant
*	10x5	<i>Ilex x 'Rutzan'</i> Red Beauty Holly	😊	😊	😊	😟	😟	✖	Tough holly with excellent fruit production
*	40x20	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'DD Blanchard' Magnolia	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	✖	Large flowers, seems superior to 'Bracken's'
***	30x20	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Bracken's Brown' Magnolia	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	No protection needed, heavy snow breakage
**	35x25	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Edith Bogue' Magnolia	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😟	More hardy than 'Bracken's'
**	25x12	<i>M. virginiana</i> 'Jim Wilson' Moonglow Sweetbay Magnolia	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Holds some foliage thru winter, fragrant
***	25x14	<i>Magnolia virginiana v. australis</i> Sweetbay Magnolia	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	Tolerates wet sites, needs winter moisture

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MISC. NEEDLED EVERGREENS TREES

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Score	Size	Tree Name	Rating							Comments
			Expert-tested for Kansas City region	Height x width (ft.)	As specimen	As buffer or massing	Culturally adaptable	Heavy soils	Drought tolerant	
*	30x14	<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i> Incense-Cedar	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	✖	Does well in SW KS, but not tested in KC	
**	30x16	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i> 'Glauca' Blue Atlas Cedar	😊	😞	😊	😞	😊	😞	Nice specimen if winters stay mild	
*	30x15	<i>C. deodara</i> 'Karl Fuchs' Blue Himalayan Cedar	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	✖	Blue fades to grey, cold tolerant	
*	25x12	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> 'Electric Blue' Blue Him.Cedar	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	✖	More dense, less cold tolerant than 'K.Fuchs'	
*	30x25	<i>Cedrus libani v. stenocoma</i> Cedar of Lebanon	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	✖	Not holding up in KC, no thriving old trees	
*	18x9	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i> Lawson Falsecypress	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	✖	Interesting horizontal twig structure	
**	24x10	<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> Weeping Alaska Cedar	😊	😞	😞	😊	😞	😊	Interesting specimen, doing well in KC	
**	12x8	<i>Cham. pisifera</i> 'Filifera' Japanese Falsecypress	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	😊	Internal needles die but can be trimmed	
**	15x9	<i>Cham. pisifera</i> 'Boulevard' Bldv. Falsecypress	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	😊	Can look a bit rough with age, but does well	
*	35x20	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i> Japanese Cedar	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	✖	Very few surviving trees in KC	
*	30x14	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i> Arizona Cypress	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊	✖	Seed source/cultivar is important	
*	20x7	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i> 'Cook's Peak' Cook's Peak Cypress	😞	😞	😊	😞	😊	✖	Appears to be cold hardy, blue foliage	
*	25x10	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i> 'Blue Ice' Blue Ice Cypress	😊	😞	😞	😞	😊	✖	Blue foliage, cold hardiness in question	
**	25x10	<i>Sciadopitys verticillata</i> Japanese Umbrella Pine	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	Very slow, needs winter shade, needs love	
*	30x15	<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i> Giant Redwood	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	✖	Not suited for KC's climate	
*	30x15	<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i> 'Hazel Smith' Giant Redwood	😊	😞	😞	😞	😞	✖	Blue color, hates KC humidity, but can survive	
***	45x25	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i> Canadian Hemlock	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞	Needs winter wind protection and good soil	

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