

Milton STAC Recommended Tree List is based on the following criteria:

- Ability to survive in difficult urban conditions
- Native species (to attract native birds and butterflies)
- Attractive
- Provides appropriate level of visibility for walkers and drivers
- Deciduous trees (no evergreens included due to visibility and other issues)
- Availability in Massachusetts nurseries

TREE LIST WILL BE REVIEWED ANNUALLY BY MILTON STAC

Sources: Arbor Day Foundation, The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, UMass Urban Forestry Program, Boston Parks Department, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, *Dirr's Handbook of Woody Plants*, NYC Street Tree Guide, Cornell University Horticulture Department, various shade tree committees from across Massachusetts

Milton Shade Tree Advisory Committee - Recommended Street Trees
Updated: 09/19/2025

Latin / Botanical Name	Common Name	Cultivar	Comment
LARGE TREES: Mature height greater than 40 feet. Consider these only in areas with adequate rooting space.			
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple		Great fall color, withstands tough conditions, pretty silver bark
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch		Interesting bark, fast growing, select only single trunk
<i>Carya ovata</i> <i>Carya Glabra</i>	Shagbark/Pignut Hickory		Shaggy bark, yellow fall color
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry		Great for difficult locations, unusual bark, rapid grower
<i>Gymnocladus</i>	Kentucky Coffee Tree		Large tree, small flowers in spring, broad spreading
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Tupelo		Gorgeous fall color, interesting branching pattern
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak		Provides high shade, tough street tree
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak		Provides high shade, tough street tree, russet fall color
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak		Tall tree with good salt tolerance
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak		Tolerates difficult conditions, use sparingly to avoid overplanting
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm	Princeton'	Vase shaped, fast growing; 'New Harmony'
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple		resistant to heat and drought
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust		no seed pods or thorns
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree		tall, large showy flowers resembling tulips or lilies
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak		Usually wider than tall,
MEDIUM TREES: Mature height 20-40 feet.			
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Sorrel Tree/Sourwood		Beautiful red fall color, white flowers in early summer
SMALL TREES: Mature height under 30 feet.			
<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	Hawthorne	'Winter King'	White flowers, red fruit for winter interest, lollipop-shaped
<i>Crataegus crusgalli inermis</i>	Hawthorne - no thorns		White flowers, pretty fall color, small leaves
<i>Malus sp.</i>	Crabapples		Beautiful white to pink flowers, fall fruit, attractive form
<i>Halesia tetraptera/carolina</i>	Silver Bell		Delicate white flowers, tough tree, choose single-stemmed varieties
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Hedge Maple		non-native
<i>Maackia amurensis</i>	Amur Maackia		non-native
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian Ironwood		non-native
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Tree Lilac		non-native
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Shadbush		non-native
PARK OR RESIDENTIAL SPECIMENS			
TREES NEED AMPLE AREA FOR PROPER ROOT GROWTH. LESS TOLERANT OF SALT, COMPACTION, AND/OR POLLUTION.			
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple		Best fall color, may suffer in a warming climate
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweet Gum		Broad shape, star shaped leaves, interesting fruit
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak		Hard to transplant so small trees must be planted, lovely fall color, majestic tree
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree		Subtle flowers in spring, no lower branching, towering, impressive tree
<i>Amelanchier sp.</i>	Shadblow		Small Tree: Single stemmed where visibility is needed, small white flowers in early spring, silver bark

NATIVE TREES THAT NEED SPECIAL CARE

<u>Cercis canadensis</u>	Redbud	Intolerant of salt, high mortality rate
<u>Magnolia acuminata</u>	Magnolia	Intolerant of pollution
<u>Tilia americana</u>	Linden	Suckering habit, may be overplanted

NON-NATIVE TREES TO AVOID

<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Bradford Pear	Overplanted, weak limbs
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple	Invasive
<i>Acer pseudoplatanioides</i>	Sycamore Maple	Invasive
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	Invasive
<i>Phelaledendron amerenisis</i>	Cork Tree	Invasive
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust	Invasive
<i>Acer ginala</i>	Amur Maple	Invasive
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Japanese Tree Lilac	Potentially invasive