

Tough Trees for Central Virginia			
David Seward	804 523-5946		
J. Sargeant Reynolds			
PO Box 85622	LSR = Large surface Roots		
Richmond, VA 23285	Key to Uses: B=Buffers ST=Street Tree PLS=Parking Lot (Strips) PLI=Parking Lot (Islands)		
dseward@reynolds.edu			
Common Name	Latin Name	Cultivars and Comments	Uses
Trident maple	<i>Acer buergeranum</i>	Tough, pest-resistant	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Hedge maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Tolerates drought	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Paperbark maple	<i>Acer griseum</i>	Tough plant, ornamental fall color & bark	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Japanese maple	<i>Acer palmatum</i>		B, ST, PLS, PLI
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Tolerates urban conditions, Large Surface Roots (LSR)	B, PLS
Sugar maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	'Green Mountain', 'Centennial' and 'Legacy'	B, PLS
Freeman maple	<i>Acer x freemanii</i>	'Armstrong Two', 'Autumn Blaze'	B, PLS
Yellow buckeye	<i>Aesculus flava</i>	Needs supplemental water	B
River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Provide irrigation (LSR)	B, PLS
American hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	tolerates wet, compacted soils	B, ST, PLS, PLI
European hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	'Fastigiata'	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Shagbark hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	Very adaptable	B
Common hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Tough, wind-tolerant (LSR)	B
Katsuratree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Needs supplemental watering	B, PLS
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Needs some protection from sun	B, PLS
Hinoki falsecypress	<i>Chamaecyparis obtusa</i>	Tough evergreen, grows medium (1-2'/yr)	B, PLS, PLI
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Needs some protection from sun	B, PLS, ST
Kousa dogwood	<i>Cornus kousa</i>	<i>Cornus kousa</i> x <i>C. florida</i> also good choices	B, PLS, ST
Japanese cryptomeria	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Evergreen, 'Yoshino' nice form	B, PLS
Leyland cypress	<i>x Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Evergreen; avoid wet areas	B, PLS
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Select male trees	B, PLS
	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i>		
Thornless honeylocust		Tough, tolerates poor soil; var. <i>inermis</i> is thornless	B, PLS,
Kentucky coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Select male forms (messy fruit)	B, PLS
American holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Greenleaf, slow growing	B, PLS,
Foster's holly	<i>Ilex x attenuata 'Fosteri'</i>		B, ST, PLS, PLI
Chinese holly & hybrids	<i>Ilex cornuta</i>	'Nellie Stevens', 'Burford', 'Mary Nell'... Very drought resistant	B, PLS, PLI
Yaupon holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Tolerates wet & sandy soils (zone 7)	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Chinese juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	Evergreen; 'Spartan'	B, PLS, PLI
Rocky mountain juniper	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	Evergreen; 'Skyrocket'	B, PLS, PLI
Eastern redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Evergreen; 'Glauca'	B, PLS, PLI
Goldenraintree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Very tough summer bloomer	B, PLS, PLI
Crape myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia</i> spp.	Tough summer bloomer	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Southern magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	(LSR) 'Little Gem' in smaller areas	B, PLS
Saucer magnolia	<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>	Early bloom often hit by late frosts	B, PLS
		Early bloom often hit by late frosts, M.x loebneri 'Merrill' good choice for faster growth	
Star magnolia	<i>Magnolia stellata</i>		B, PLS
Sweetbay magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	tolerates wet, low oxygen soils, Native	B, ST, PLS
Dawn redwood	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	Tolerates wet, low oxygen soils	B, PLS
Waxmyrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	Tolerates sandy soils and clayey, wet soils	B, ST, PLS, PLI
American hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>		B, ST, PLS, PLI
Persian parrotia	<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Tolerates heat and drought	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Loblolly pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Native	B, PLS
Chinese pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Adaptable, pest-resistant	B, ST, PLS, PLI
London planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	Tolerates drought (LSR)	B, PLS
Pissard plum	<i>Prunus ceracifera</i>	'Atropurpurea', 'Thundercloud'	B, PLS, PLI
Oriental cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>	'Kwanzan' & 'Akebono'	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Autumnalis & Weeping cherry	<i>Prunus subhirtella</i>	'Autumnalis' & 'Pendula' (B,ST, PLS, PLI 'Autumnalis')	B, PLS ('Pendula')
Yoshino cherry	<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i>	Monitor for borers	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Callery pear (cultivars)	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Avoid 'Bradford' (Cleveland Select & 'Fauriei' are Best)	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Sawtooth oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>		B, PLS
Laurel oak	<i>Quercus hemisphaerica</i>	'Darlington' very durable (LSR)	B, PLS
Overcup oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	Large tree (LSR)	B, PLS
Water oak	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	(LSR)	B, PLS
Pin oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Likes wet soils (LSR)	B, PLS
Willow oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Tolerates urban conditions (LSR)	B, PLS
English oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Tolerates drought (LSR)	B, PLS
Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Tolerates urban conditions (LSR)	B, PLS
Japanese pagodatree	<i>Sophora japonica</i>	Tolerates urban conditions	B, PLS
Pondcypress	<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	Tolerates wet, low oxygen soils. Wind resistant	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Tolerates wet, low oxygen soils. Wind resistant	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Giant arborvitae	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	'Green Giant' good, fast screen	B, PLS
American arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Pyramidalis' & 'Emerald Green' good forms	B, PLS, PLI
Oriental arborvitae	<i>Thuja orientalis</i>	Tolerates poor soil	B, PLS, PLI
Littleleaf linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	'Greenspire' good choice	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Silver linden	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	Tolerates drought	B, PLS
Lacebark elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Tolerates poor soil, urban conditions (LSR)	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Chastetree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Tough summer bloomer	B, ST, PLS, PLI
Japanese zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Tolerates poor soil	B, PLS
Other plants not recommended			
Hawthorns	<i>Crataegus</i> spp.	too disease susceptible	
Ashes (Green & White)	<i>Fraxinus</i> spp	too insect susceptible (borers)	
Horsechestnuts and Buckeyes	<i>Aesculus</i> spp	Leaf Blotch is a problem (not on <i>A. flava</i>)	
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Not heat tolerant	
Colorado Spruce	<i>Picea glauca</i>	Mites are a problem	
White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Not urban tolerant	