

Medina County Invasive Species Buy-Back Program

Species Selection List

Native Tree Descriptions

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) – Full sun to light shade. Adaptable to many soil conditions but prefers moist loamy soil. Grows to 60-90 feet tall. Can be a fast grower with brilliant red fall color. One of the earliest trees to bloom in the spring. Often tapped along with sugar maple for syrup production. Preferred host plant for several species of moth.

Shadblow Serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*) – Full sun to partial shade. Mature height up to 15-25 feet. Performs best in moist, well-drained soil but is tolerant of soggy, clay soils. Multi-trunked habit but can be pruned to a central trunk. Showy blooms in late-April to early-May provide nectar to many native bees. Host plant to up to 117 moths and butterflies. Delicious edible berries favored by many birds. Delightful orange-to-red color in fall.

Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*) – Best growth occurs in full sun, but tolerant of partial shade. Multi-stemmed shrub reaching 4-6 feet. Prefers a moist-to-wet soil, but adaptable to all but the driest sites. Profuse white flowers attract many native bees as well as butterflies and other pollinators. Edible black berries astringent when raw, but make great jellies/jams and rich with antioxidants. Fall color a striking reddish-orange.

Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*) – Shade-tolerant small tree reaching 20-25 feet. Grows best on a well-drained, moist soil. Its elegant, horizontal branching pattern give this species its common name. Large, white flower clusters more profuse in full sun, attracting many pollinators. Blue fruit on red stems favored by many species of birds and adds summer interest. Fall color soft maroon to crimson red.

Wild Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) – Sun-loving tree capable of reaching heights up to 100 feet. Best growth in moist, well-drained soil but can tolerate drought and a wide range of other soil conditions. Wood highly prized for its beauty and durability. Pendulous clusters of white flowers provide nectar and pollen to many native bees and bumblebees. Berries sought after by many songbirds. Fall color a blaze of reds, yellows, and oranges.

Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) -- Thrives in full sun but can handle light shade. Mature trees may reach 80-100 feet. Adaptable to most soil conditions except only the wettest sites. Stately growth form and a wide crown makes it an unmatched shade tree. Wildlife value extremely high. Host plant to up to 475 butterfly and moth species. Acorns favored by wood duck, wild turkey, various woodpeckers, and many songbirds. Because of the curious fringed cap of the acorn this tree is also known as Mossycup Oak.

Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) – Flowering shrub that, often multi-stemmed, can reach 12 feet in height. Prefers full sun to partial shade and a rich soil from medium to wet. Large compound leaves and large umbels of white flowers make this an attractive summer shrub. Flowers attract many native solitary bees, some of which may nest in the pith of the stems. Edible berries can be made into jellies, preserves, or wine. Berries favored by fruit-eating birds such as cedar waxwing, gray catbird, and northern mockingbird.