

SENECA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT CONSERVATION PLANTING PROGRAM SPECIES DESCRIPTIONS

CONIFERS

- **Austrian Pine** - Evergreen, 4 to 6 inches long, flexible with two thick, dark green needles per fascicle. A small to medium sized tree with a very dense crown (needles retained 4 years) that eventually develops a flat top.
- **Fir, Balsam** - It is a small to medium-sized tree used primarily for pulp and light frame and construction, and it is one of the most popular Christmas trees. Wildlife relies extensively on this tree for food and shelter. Balsam fir prefers moist, cool, well-drained, acidic soil, but will tolerate some salt.
- **Fir, Concolor** - A citrus smell is present when the needle is broken. White bloom may be distributed evenly or may occur in distinct bands on both surfaces. The Concolor Fir grows in acidic, drought tolerant, loamy, moist, sandy, well drained soils.
- **Fir, Douglas** - Height 40-60'. Flowers open in late March and April. Leaves are densely set, needle-like with blunt tips and have a strong fruity fragrance. High quality timber. The DF grows in acidic, alkaline, loamy, moist, sandy, well drained, wide range, clay soils.
- **Fir, Fraser** - A narrow, pyramidal tree with glossy, dark green needles. The undersides of the needles have two white rows. Not suited for hot, dry sites as it prefers moist, well-drained sites.
- **Spruce, Black Hills** - Grows to be 30-60' in height. The Black Hills Spruce grows in acid, moist, gravelly or sandy loam, fine clay soils. Prefers moist, well drained soil, but will tolerate dry, well drained sites.
- **Spruce, Colorado Blue** - Height 100'. Grows in acidic, alkaline, drought tolerant, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, well drained, wet, wide range, clay soils. The needles surround the branch at nearly right angles and are usually silvery to blue-green, but occasionally the blue is absent.
- **Spruce, Norway** - Grows to be 40-60' in height. It grows in acidic, drought tolerant, loamy, moist, sandy, well drained, clay soils. This tree grows at a medium to fast growth rate.
- **Spruce, White** - Grows to be 40-60' in height. The White Spruce grows in acidic, drought tolerant, loamy, moist sandy, well drained, clay soils. This tree grows at a medium growth rate. When crushed a pungent odor is apparent. Needle tips are pointed, but not sharp.
- **American Arborvitae "White Cedar"** - Height up to 50' flowers open in March and April. Leaves are dark green and yellowish beneath. When crushed give off a smell of apples. Cones ripen from yellowish-green the following autumn, about 1/2" long with 8-10 scales.

GROUND COVERS

- **Blackberry** - This plant produces large black fruit that is firm, fleshy, and sweet. Blackberry will produce over a long period of time. It is a very hardy and heavy producer. The root systems of this plant have great soil holding capacity.
 - **Blueberry Packs:**
 - **Blue Crop Blueberry** - is an upright hardy and drought resistant bush. It has a large firm aromatic berry.
 - **Jersey Blueberry** - is a vigorous erect bush with medium size, firm, sweet berry.
- Blueberries will be more productive if cross-pollination takes place. This means two or more varieties should be planted.**
- **Red Raspberry** - 3-5' foot dark green foliage on an upright bush, producing bright berries. Bloom time late spring, fruit begins to ripen in mid summer. Full sun required.
 - **Daylily –Apricot Beauty** - Herbaceous perennial, Zones: 3 to 9 Bloom Time: June to July Bloom Color: Orange Sun: Full sun to part shade Wildlife: Attracts Butterflies Uses: Erosion Control
 - **Hosta** - 22" high, spreading plant. It has a blue-green leaf color and a funnel-shaped, lavender flower that appears in July. Hosta will tolerate sun and grows best in well-drained soils. This plant has an extensive root system, which makes it excellent for erosion control. It is also disease resistant.
 - **Liatis spicata** - the dense blazing star or prairie gay feather, is an herbaceous perennial flowering plant in the sunflower and daisy family Asteraceae. The plants have tall spikes of purple flowers resembling bottle brushes or feathers that grow one to five feet tall. Zones 3-8.
 - **Myrtle** - 1' evergreen vine. Grows almost anywhere, ranging from deep shade to full sun in dry to moist soil types. Green foliage is enhanced in May by a purple bloom.
 - **Pachysandra** - 1' trailing evergreen. Spikes of snowy flowers bloom in April. At it's best in shade and acid soil. Good cover under trees & shrubs.

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DECIDUOUS TREES & SHRUBS

TREES

- **Birch, Native** - Grows up to 50'. Has white bark that will appear after 3 to 4 years. This tree will grow well in moist soils.
- **Black Cherry** - Grows up to 50 feet. Will have profuse white flowers in the spring and brilliant gold leaf color in the Fall. Fruit from this tree is good for making wine and jelly and is also a great food for wildlife.
- **Dogwood, White Flowering** - Small tree, occasionally up to 40 feet tall. What are thought to be the “flowers” of dogwood are composed of 4 large, white petal-like bracts that are notched at the end. The true flower is a small, inconspicuous, greenish-white or yellowish, compact head in the center of the showy bracts. Dogwood berries are a favorite fall and winter food of deer, wild turkeys, gray squirrels, and many species of songbirds.
- **Maple, Red** - 40-60' in height. This tree grows at a medium to fast growth rate. Grows in acidic, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, silty loam, well drained, wet, clay soils. In the fall its leaf color will range from green to flaming orange. It is very tolerant of soils, but prefers acid soils.
- **Maple, Sugar** - Grows to 60-70'. This tree grows at a slow to medium growth rate. Prefers well-drained soils. Brilliant fall leaf colors and pleasing growth habit.
- **Oak, Red** - Grows 50-75'. This tree grows at a fast growth rate. Grows in acidic, drought tolerant, loamy, and moist, sandy, well drained, clay soils.
- **Oak, Sawtooth** - 40-60' high tree with dense, wide-spreading branches. This tree grows at a medium to fast growth rate. The SO grows in acidic, drought tolerant, loamy, moist, sandy, well drained, clay soils.
- **Oak, Swamp White** - Grows rapidly and can reach 60-80' tall. One of the more important white oaks for lumber. Wildlife is attracted to the acorns it drops.
- **Oak, White** - 60', slow growing tree. This tree is great feed for wildlife, and is also a great timber tree. White Oak grows well in moist soil types.
- **Poplar Hybrid** - 100' upright and rapid growing tree. This tree is great for wet areas and wind breaks.
- **Sycamore** - 75-100' tree with a massive trunk. The bark of a Sycamore is mottled. This tree is fast growing and prefers moist soils. Zone: 4
- **Tulip Tree** - 80-100' tall and maintains a fairly narrow oval crown. The nectar of the flowers attracts birds and other small wildlife. Highly resistant to disease and insects.

SHRUBS

- **American Cranberry** - 6-12' multi-stemmed shrub. In May this plant has white flowers. September through February it has bright red fruit. The fruit of American Cranberry is used in jelly and is great for attracting birds.
- **Butterfly Bush** - 5-12' multi-stemmed shrub. This bush will have fragrant flowers July through the fall. Butterfly bush attracts butterflies. It should be heavily pruned in the spring and it tolerates most soils.
- **Lilac** - 8-12' leggy, upright shrub. In mid-May it has fragrant flowers.
- **Gray Dogwood** - This tough, low-maintenance shrub offers subtle year-round beauty. White berries attract many birds in the late summer early fall.
- **Dogwood Redoiser** - 7-9' slender, upright shrub. It has a red stem and white drupe fruit in mid-August. Redoiser Dogwood is best in wet or swampy conditions. It is also a great structure for holding soil on sloped areas.
- **Elderberry** - 5-12' multi-stemmed shrub. In mid-June it has white flowers and in mid-August it has purple fruit. Elderberry tolerates soils and roadside conditions.
- **Forsythia** - 8-10' upright and wide shrub. It has yellow flowers in April for 2-3 weeks. Full sunlight is needed for maximum flower. Forsythia prefers loose soil, but does well in any type.
- **Rose of Sharon** - 8-12' erect shrub or small tree with numerous upright branches. This plant flowers July through September. Althea will tolerate moist soils, full sun, and is pH adaptable.