

***Picea glauca* ‘Conica’**- Classic cone shaped conifer. Grows 3-6”/year. Matures at 8-12’ tall and wide. Easy to prune to size.

***Ribes sanguineum* ‘King Edward IIIV’** standard- Flowering currant. Beautiful teardrop pink flowers in spring. Vibrant fall color before the leaves fall to reveal peeling bark. Reaches 8- tall and 3-5’ wide. Part shade or full sun (with ample water). Zone 5. Located in the Tall Sun Shrubs.

***Rhamnus frangula* ‘Fine Line’**- Buckthorn Thin leaves on this columnar shrub. Reaches 5-7’ tall. A clean formal look. Striking in a tall container. Full sun. Zone 2. Located in Tall shrubs for sun.

***Salix caprea* ‘Pendula’**- Weeping Pussy Willow. This pendulous form reaches 8’ tall/wide from the graft. Silvery gray furry flowers in February/March. Requires a lot of water if kept in a container. Zones 4-8. Located in the Shade Trees.

Sciadopitys verticillata- Umbrella Pine. Thick, flattened “needles” form whorls around the branches. This conifer can reach 20’+, BUT it grows about 6”/year. Evergreen. Position in full sun or part shade, and shelter from winds. Slender habit. Zones 4-8. Located in the Conifer section.

***Ulmus parviflora* ‘Seiju’ or ‘Yatsuba’**- Little Leaf Elm. These striking Elms grow in full sun to part shade up to 6-8’ tall. The thick robust branches and stiff branch angles are perfectly complimented by tiny leaves. This strong structure makes a good focal point any time of the year. Zone 5. Written by Laura Altvater

Caring for your Container tree

Size of container

To determine container size consider current plant size, eventual plant size, and space available at home. The pot should be at least 6” larger in circumference than the current root ball. The plant may need to be up potted or root pruned in future years to maintain a healthy specimen. If the pot is much larger than the current root ball, watering challenges arise.

Watering

All container plants require more water than the same plant in the ground. In the hot summer months the container may need to be watered every day depending on the size of the pot. If a small plant is placed in a very large container it can be difficult to keep the actual root ball wet. Take extra care to moisten the root zone and not just the excess potting soil. If the tree is in the ground water once a week at a slow trickle for at least one hour.

Soil and Fertilizer

We recommend any potting soil for container plants because it offers the best drainage. Fertilize once a year, in the spring, with an all-purpose fertilizer of your choice.

Planting in the Ground

Dig a hole twice as wide and a little deeper than the current pot. Fill the hole with water, and allow to drain if the soil is dry. Add 1/3 compost to the existing soil, and fill soil. You can add a handful of bone meal or rock phosphate to encourage root development. Gently loosen the roots and lower the tree into the hole and fill with compost and soil mix. Water thoroughly.

Container Trees

Trees under 10’ for patios, containers and small places



Container Trees

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The following list gives suggestions of mostly deciduous and some evergreen trees which to out at 10' or less. Several of the listed plants are shrubs which can be pruned into a tree form. Please refer to the back of this pamphlet for care instructions, or our Information Desk.

Favorite container trees

Acacia pravissima- Ovens Wattle. A structural wonder with evergreen triangular leaves. Grows 10-20' in ground. Full sun, drought tolerant. Protect in winter. Z 8-10.

Acer ginnala 'Emerald Elf'- Compact maple growing 6' tall/wide. Dark glossy leaves turn scarlet and purple in fall. Full sun to part shade. Zones 2-8. Located in the Shade trees.

Acer palmatum- Japanese Maples
There are many varieties which stay under 10'. Please ask for a handout at the Information Desk for details. These maples prefer morning sun and afternoon shade. Some varieties can take full shade. All are deciduous. They are hardy to zone 5. Located in the Japanese Maple section.

Betula pendula 'Trost Dwarf'- Thread-like bright green leaves. Slow growing to 3-4' tall/wide. Zone 2. Located on the Specialty Tree tables.

Camellia- Evergreen shrubs reaching 8-10' tall and wide. Winter flowers range from white to true red. Part shade to shade.

Chamecyparis obtusa varieties- Hinoki Cypress. There are many mini and dwarf varieties which do not grow more than 6"/year. These slow growing varieties do not surpass the 5' mark. They are evergreen and can come in many colors. Zones 4-8. Located in the Conifer area.

Chamecyparis thyoides 'Red Star'- A unique white cedar with gray green star shaped foliage that turns maroon in winter. Grows 3-6"/year in an upright conical form. Hardy to zone 3. Located in the Specialty Conifer Section.

Cornus alba* or *stolonifera cultivars- Red twig dogwoods. These shrubs can be easily trained into a tree form. They can reach 8-10' tall/wide. Beautiful colored twigs in winter. Sun or part shade. Zones 2-8. Located in the Tolerates shade bay.

Cryptomeria japonica 'Black Dragon'- A slow growing conifer reaching 8-10' tall. Black green foliage on upright stems. Evergreen. Full sun. Protect in winter. Zones 5-6. Located in the Conifer area.

Eucryphia glutinosa- An evergreen tree from Chile growing up to 15' in ground. White Camellia like flowers bloom in Aug. Full sun. Protect in winter. Zones 8-9.

Euryops pectinatus 'Viridis'- Evergreen shrub which has been trained into a standard. Bright yellow daisy flowers through the season. Protect from winds and extreme cold. Reaches 3-4' from the graft point. Zones 4-8. Located in Greenhouse 1.

Ginkgo biloba 'Chase Manhattan'- A slow growing variety that only reaches 5' tall/wide. Full sun. Zones 3-8. Located on the Specialty tree tables.

Lagerstroemia indica 'Petite Pinkie'- Crape Myrtle. An ideal choice for a hot spot. This shrub/tree is attractive all year. It reaches 5' tall and 4' wide. Clusters of bright pink flowers in late summer are followed by blazing fall color. Deciduous. Zone 6-8. Located in Medium Sun Shrubs.

Larix decidua 'Pendula'- Weeping European Larch. Gorgeous deciduous conifer with lime green needles in spring which turns golden in fall. Stake to desired height. Zones 2-6. Located in the Conifer Section.

Malus 'Coralburst'- Crabapple. This variety reaches only 8-10' tall and forms a dense head. Bright coral buds open to double pink flowers. Small bronzy orange fruit. Deciduous, full sun. Zone 5. Located in the Shade Trees.

Morus alba 'Contorted'- Contorted Mulberry. The curious contorted branches of this mulberry makes it a specimen plant in a container. A small tree growing 6-8' tall. Fruitless. Full sun. Located in the Shade trees.

Peach 'Empress' or 'Golden Glory'- These are two genetic dwarf varieties of peaches that grow only 5' tall. A beautiful container tree with bright pink flowers in early spring. Both varieties produce sweet juicy fruit in September.