

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL

RECOMMENDED STREET TREE LIST

2002

This guide is intended for use by property owners in selecting front yard trees that will effectively function as ‘street trees’ for Sebastopol neighborhoods. Trees can add beauty to your yard and to City streets and neighborhoods, as well as providing shade, wind protection, bird habitat, and privacy screening.

TREES FOR PLANTER AREAS WIDER THAN 36”

COMMON NAME/ BOTANICAL NAME	DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS/COMMENTS
ASH <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> ‘Summit’, ‘Patmore’	Deciduous, fast to 50’ tolerates wet soil	Many cultivars; select <u>seedless</u> form, and for fall color, etc.
CHINESE ELM <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> ‘Drake’	Deciduous semi-evergreen, fast to 40’+ beautiful bark, graceful form	Many cultivars, some with weeping habit
CHINESE PISTACHE <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Deciduous, 30-45’ tall slow-growing initially excellent fall color	Male trees preferred (no seeds/fruit)
FLOWERING PEAR <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> ‘Red Spire’ ‘Aristocrat’ or ‘Chanticleer’	Deciduous, 25-35’ tall excellent spring flowering and fall color	Do not plant Bradford Pear (<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>) (often has poor structure and habit)
LIQUIDAMBAR or SWEETGUM	Deciduous, columnar, to 50’ tall	Good cultivars are Burgundy, Palo Alto, and Festival;

Liquidambar styraciflua

excellent fall color

aggressive roots require much space (6'+ width planter)

LONDON PLANE (SYCAMORE)
Platanus acerifolia

Deciduous, fast to 50'+ tall
reliable, strong branching

Large tree needs 5'+ wide planter – needs space
Var. 'Bloodgood' resistant to anthracnose (leaf blight)
'Yarwood' resistant to powdery mildew

MADRONE HYBRID
Arbutus 'Marina'

Evergreen, 25-35' tall
tolerates many site conditions
beautiful flowers, bark, foliage

Standard (single trunk) form; fruit drop can be slight problem

RED MAPLE
Acer rubrum 'October Glory'

Deciduous, 25'-35' tall
excellent fall color
tolerates wet soils

Different cultivars = varying growth habit, color
(e.g. 'October Glory' = tall, rounded crown; 'Red Sunset' = narrower, upright)

RED OAK
Quercus rubra

Deciduous, moderate growth to 50'+
excellent fall color
tolerates watering, moist soils

Excellent large shade tree
may hold foliage into winter

TREES FOR NARROW PLANTER AREAS – 18-24" wide

CRAPE MYRTLE
Lagerstroemia indica

Deciduous, 10-20' tall (most)
long summer flowering,
excellent fall color, nice bark

Select mildew-resistant variety (hybrids with native American names, e.g. 'Muskogee', 'Tuscarora')

TRIDENT MAPLE
Acer buergeranum

Deciduous, 20-25'
good fall color, tolerates wet soil

VICTORIAN BOX
Pittosporum undulatum

Evergreen, fast to 15', taller slower
fragrant flowers, tolerates varied site cond.

If available; standard form (single trunk)

WATER GUM
Tristanopsis laurina

Evergreen, 15-20'
attractive bark, foliage

Do not substitute var. 'Elegant' (foliage and habit much different)

Notes

Selection criteria

Choose the right tree for your yard. Look up your target trees in garden books and evaluate their characteristics such as growth pattern, height, spread, spring blossoms, and fall color. Avoid very large trees unless you have a large yard. (Redwoods are not a good choice for most urban lots!)

Think about how the mature tree might shade your yard or house or alter views. Avoid planting trees under power lines, unless you plant a smaller, lower-growing variety. Be aware of placement of underground sprinkler, water and sewer lines. Visualize the mature tree's impact on line-of-sight at driveways, walkways and sidewalks and place accordingly. Avoid potential displacement problems by planting trees away from the house foundation, walkways and sidewalks.

Select good quality specimens free of disease and insects, no circling or girdling roots, no cut leaders, with good horizontal and vertical branch spacing and a strong single trunk.

New planting

Planting holes should be at least twice the width of the container, and the same depth as the root ball (no deeper). Do not plant the tree 'low' in the ground, which may cause rot.

Backfill mix should be primarily native soil, with small amounts of soil amendments as necessary to improve organic component.

Final height of the rootball should be 1-1 ½ higher than surrounding ground. Tamp soil firmly around roots. Water-in thoroughly. Most trees that die in the first year after planting are either planted too low, settle after planting, or receive too little or too much water.

Fertilizing newly-installed trees is not generally necessary. If fertilizer is used, be conservative—over-fertilization may kill or damage the tree.

Staking is often not necessary. If required, attach single stake as low as possible in crown of tree. Do not install stake through root ball. Do not rigidly attach stake to tree—tree will respond better to the site if staking is more flexible.

Top dressing may be mulch or wood chips, 2-3” deep, to within a couple of inches of the trunk.