

Species List for Celebration Trees

MAPLES

Sugar Maple: Canada's national tree; a version of its leaf is featured on the Canadian flag. A wonderful shade tree with spectacular autumn colour. The sap is the principal source for maple syrup. Can grow up to 35 m high and 90 cm in diameter and live for 200 years.

Red Maple: Medium-sized shade tree (25 m high/60 cm diameter) with a long, dense crown; lives up to 100 years. One of the first maple species to flower in the spring with red tassel-like clusters. Bright red leaves in the fall.

Silver Maple: Medium-sized to large (35 m high/100 cm diameter); lives up to 130 years. Fast growing. Widely planted as a shade tree. Pale yellow or brownish in autumn. The earliest species of maple to flower, a small greenish-yellow flower on short stalks.

Black Maple: Size and form is similar to the sugar maple. Leaves have dense, brownish, velvety hairs beneath and appear wilted. Are yellow to brownish-yellow in autumn, seldom red.

OAKS

White Oak: Medium-sized to large trees, up to 35 m high, 120 cm in diameter and several hundred years old. Fruits are acorns (12-20 mm long), the cup enclosing one-quarter of the nut. Bark light gray, with thin scales. Trunk often branch-free for two-thirds of the tree height. Leaves turn reddish-purple in autumn. A characteristic tree of the broadleaf forests in southern Ontario and Quebec.

Red Oak: The common oak of eastern Canada. Medium-sized tree (up to 25 m high and 90 cm in diameter) and 150 years old. Fruits are acorns, 12-25 mm long. Young bark is smooth; mature bark has unbroken vertical ridges. Trunk is straight and crown of tree is symmetrically rounded. The provincial tree of Prince Edward Island.

Bur Oak: Smaller-sized tree (up to 15 m high and 60 cm in diameter) and 200 years old. Trunk straight, tall, distinct to the upper crown. Fruits are acorns 20-30 mm long. Bark is rough, becoming deeply furrowed with ridges. Tolerant of urban conditions. The most common native white oak, ranging from southern Saskatchewan east to New Brunswick.

Tulip Tree: Occurs in southern Ontario (on the south shore of Lake Huron, the north shore of Lake Erie, and the Niagara Peninsula). Large tree, up to 35 m high, 100 cm in diameter and 150 years old. Wide leaves; light green turning a brilliant yellow in autumn. Flowers large, showy, solitary, shaped much like tulip flowers; appear after the leaves. Trunk is tall, massive, straight with little taper.

Hackberry: The northern Hackberry is sparsely distributed in Ontario (common at Point Pelee and other localities on Lake Erie) and Quebec and some from the south end of Lake Manitoba. Small trees, up to 15 m high, 50 cm in diameter and 150 years old. Fruit is berry-like, with a pitted stone, reddish purple, persisting on the tree in winter.

American Beech: Is native to Canada. Medium-sized trees, up to 25 m high, 100 cm in diameter, and 200 years old; occasionally older and larger. Leaves are dark bluish-green on upper surface, lighter beneath. Trunk short, sinuous; crown broad. Fruits are edible nuts; a favorite food for many birds and mammals. Wood used for flooring, furniture. Slow-growing.

Ironwood: Is native to Canada. Small trees, up to 12 m high and 25 cm in diameter; occasionally larger. Crown is wide-spreading, with long, slender branches. The wood is heavy, very hard, tough; the densest Canadian wood; the strong wood is used for tool handles. The fruit is small flattened nuts in clusters, reminiscent of hops.

Trembling Aspen: Occurs throughout the forested areas of Canada. Medium-sized trees, up to 25 m high, 40 cm in diameter, and 80 years old. Trunk long, cylindrical, smooth, with little taper. Crown short, rounded. Leaves broadly oval to kidney-shaped; stalk flattened, slender, usually longer than the blade, causing leaves to tremble in the breeze. Fruits are mature seed catkins.

Basswood (American Linden): A large tree (35 m high, 100 cm in diameter and 200 years old), with creamy yellow fragrant flowers that appear in July after the leaves have fully grown. Leaves heart-shaped. Considered an excellent source of nectar by bee-keepers. Wood valued for hand-carving and turnery.

Serviceberry: Very small trees, up to 10 m high and 20 cm in diameter; trunk slender, with very little taper. Leaves oval with prominent straight veins and regular sharp teeth. Twigs, bark and fruits provide food for many birds and mammals. Early spring flower clusters showy; fruits small, berry-like; bark smooth gray.

White Spruce: Found in all forested regions of Canada except on the Pacific coast. Medium-sized trees, up to 25 m high, 60 cm in diameter and 200 years old. Principal branches bushy, generally horizontal. Needles bluish-green. Seed cones cylindrical with close fitting scales.

Tamarack: Occurs in every province and territory of Canada and notable for being deciduous conifers. Medium-sized trees, up to 25 m high, 40 cm in diameter, and 150 years old. A pleasing form with soft green foliage that turns brilliant yellow in autumn and leafless in winter. Needles short and cones small. The name Tamarack is the Algonquian name for the species and means "wood used for snowshoes".

Eastern White Pine: A soft pine; the tallest tree in eastern Canada and the provincial tree of Ontario; recognize it on rocks overlooking our many lakes and in paintings by the Group of Seven. Medium-sized trees, up to 30 m high, 100 cm in diameter, and 200 years old. Rapid growing. The only 5-needled pine native to eastern North America. Closed seed cones, yellowish-green, slender. The most valuable softwood lumber in eastern Canada.

Information from *Trees in Canada* by John Laird Farrar