**Prince Edward County Recommended Tree List**
This is the list required for developers who are building in our towns and villages. It is also an excellent jumping off point for anyone seeking advice on what to plant in our area. Food trees like fruit and nut trees are a great choice for home use and are not — with exceptions— on this list.

**A note on fruit trees**
Fruit trees and some nut trees that produce larger fruit can be unsuitable for boulevard planting as they can generate quite a lot of mess for a streetscape but are desirable and useful trees for residents. Many fruit and nut trees such as apples, paw paws, pears, plums, cherries etc. need a pollinator to produce fruit. Nursery's should be able to provide information on which species and which cultivars require a companion and be able to recommend a complimentary cultivar.

## Pro Tips from an ecologist*

- **Choose the right tree for the site.** How much space? Sun vs. shade? Sandy vs. soggy soil? Get this right and your tree is more likely to thrive.

- **Variety is the best defence.** Plant a mix of species rather than all the same to prevent disease. There are exceptions: some tree species do need pollinators or naturally grow in groves. See more info below.

- **Mulch to protect.** A layer of cardboard or cocoa mat and a thick layer of mulch close to but not right up to the bark will keep your roots warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

*Terrestrial Ecologist and member of the Environmental Advisory Committee, Ewa Bednarczuk.

| Site Conditions | Scientific Name | Common Name | Origin | Comments |
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| | *Acer rubrum* | Red Maple | Native | Good fall colour, fast initial growth for a maple, common street tree in Picton, Wellington, Bloomfield |
| | *Acer nigra* | Black Maple | Native | Almost identical to Sugar Maple, not as common |
| | *Acer saccharum* | Sugar Maple | Native | Intolerant of roadside salt, soil compaction |

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| | *Picea glauca* | White Spruce | Native | Best on natural soils, parks. Does not tolerate urban growing conditions well |
| | *Pinus strobus* | Eastern White Pine | Native | Road salt challenges |
| | *Larix laricina* | Tamarack (larch) | Native | Deciduous conifer. Prefers wet or boggy soils. Intolerant of road salt. |
| | *Prunus serotina* | Black Cherry | Native | Important food source for wildlife |
| | *Prunus pensylvanica* | Pin cherry | Native | Important food source for wildlife |
| | *Quercus alba* | White Oak | Native | Important food source for wildlife |
| | *Quercus macrocarpa* | Bur Oak | Native | Important food source for wildlife, tolerant of drier soil conditions |
| | *Quercus muehlenbergii* | Chinquapin Oak | Native | Rare in Ontario, should be promoted as County is in limited range of Ontario. |
| | *Quercus rubra* | Red Oak | Native | Important food source for wildlife |
| | *Tilia americana* | Basswood | Native | Important bee pollinator species |
| | *Acer x freemanii* | Freeman Maple | Native hybrid | Hybrid of Red Maple (*Acer rubrum)* and Silver Maple *(Acer saccharinum)* |
| | *Gymnocladus dioicus* | Kentucky Coffeetree | Carolinian | Thick twigs, if good form is promoted with pruning, it can be more tolerant of withstanding weight if ice storms, drought-tolerant. |
| | *Liriodendron tulipifera* | Tulip tree | Carolinian | Some rare large specimens on private property in the County. |

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| | *Platanus occidentalis* | American Sycamore | Carolinian | Some rare large specimens on private property in the County. |
| | *Gingko biloba* | Gingko | Asia | Disease free, very tolerant to more difficult growing conditions, drought-tolerant. |
| | *Zelkova serrata* | Japanese Zelkova | Asia | Species similar to White Elm (*Ulmus americana),* same family, similar vase-shape form |
| | *Picea abies* | Norway Spruce | Europe | Grows faster than White Spruce (*Picea abies)* |
| | *Picea omorika* | Serbian Spruce | Europe | Good alternative for Blue Spruce *(Picea pungens)* which is overplanted |
| | *Platanus X acerifolia* | London Planetree | Europe | Similar to Sycamore, more resistant to poor growing conditions, greater resistance to anthracnose (foliar disease) |
| | *Quercus robur 'fastigiate'* | English Oak | Europe | On the list specifically for the columnar cultivar for planting where there is room to grow up but not out. |
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| **Mid-Size tree at maturity** | *Carpinus caroliniana* | Blue-Beech | Native | Shade tolerant |
| | *Ostrya virginiana* | Ironwood | Native | Shade tolerant |
| | *Salix nigra* | Black Willow | Native | For remediation purposes along water only. DO NOT plant on roadsides. |
| | *Betula papyrifera* | Paper Birch | Native | Relatively short lived - 50 - 100 years. Tolerant of a range of a wide range of soils but prefers moist, sandy soils. |

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| | *Betula alleghaniensis* | Yellow Birch | Native | The largest Ontario birch prefers wet soil. Does not tolerate planting near Sugar Maples. Salt tolerant. |
| | *Celtic occidentalis* | Common Hackberry | Carolinian | Very hardy, drought-tolerant. |
| | *Gleditsia triacanthos* | Honey-locust | Carolinian | Multiple pest issues due to overplanting, try to avoid unless difficult site allows for no other species to grow, drought-tolerant. |
| | *Magnolia sp.* | Magnolia sp. | Carolinian | Ornamental, flowers, sensitive to extreme cold |
| | *Corylus colurna* | Turkish Hazel | Europe | More tolerant of drought-like soils |
| | *Fagus sylvatica* | European Beech | Europe | Ornamental use. |
| | *Tilia cordata* | Little Leaf Linden | Europe | Easier tree to maintain than native Basswood (*Tilia americana)* along roadsides with regard to form |
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| **Park or Landscape Tree - ideal shade or wildlife tree but not preferred for streetscapes** | *Carya cordifomis* | Bitternut Hickory | Native | Nuts |
| | *Carya ovata* | Shagbark Hickory | Native | Nuts, not common further north of Bay of Quinte, nursery availability may be limited but should be encouraged to plant where possible |

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| | *Pinus resinosa* | Red Pine | Native | Drought-tolerant |
| | *Pinus rigida* | Pitch Pine | Native | Drought-tolerant |
| | *Pinus strobus* | Eastern White Pine | Native | Road salt challenges |
| | *Tilia americanca* | Basswood | Native | Important bee pollinator |
| | *Tsuga canadensis* | Eastern Hemlock | Native | Better in open space than roadside, shade tolerant |
| | *Aesculus glabra* | Ohio Buckeye | Carolinian | Nuts |
| | *Juglans nigra* | Black Walnut | Carolinian | Nuts |
| | *Aesculus hippocastanum* | Horse-Chestnut | Europe | Nuts, spring flowers |
| | *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* | Dawn Redwood | Asia | Sensitive to roadside conditions |
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| **Small trees – power line compatible** | *Amelanchier canadensis* | Serviceberry | Native | Tall shrub, white flowers |
| | *Sorbus Decorus* | Showy Mountain Ash | | Salt tolerant. 3 season interest. Striking flowers, berries and fall colour. In the Rose family. No relationship to Ash family |
| | *Sorbus Americana* | American Mountain Ash | Native | Salt tolerant. 3 season interest. Striking flowers, berries and fall colour. In the Rose family. No relationship to Ash family |
| | *Prunus virginiana* | Choke Cherry | Native | Important food for wildlife (berries), prone to Black Knot. |

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| | *Prunus Nigra* | Canada Plum | Native | Excellent wildlife tree, prone to Black Knot fungal disease. |
| | *Cercis canadensis* | Eastern Redbud | Carolinian | Shrub-like, requires some wind protection |
| | *Pinus mugo* | Mugho Pine | Europe | Good for slope stabilization/erosion control |
| | *Syringa vulgaris* | Common Lilac | Europe | Colonizes as a large shrub |
| | *Syringa reticulata* | Japanese Tree Lilac | Asia | Less likely to colonize like Common Lilac, small, compact tree for limited soil volume/growing space |
| | *Cornus alterni-folia* | Alternate Leaf Dogwood | Native | Much admired for its year round beauty, this small tree is also an excellent habitat tree. |
| | *Morus Rubra* | Red Mulberry | Native | Tolerates a wide range of poor quality soils. Hard to source. Is hard to differentiate from invasive white Mulberry. Only purchase from a reputable native tree nursery. |
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| **Screens, Wind block, Privacy** | *Thuja occidentalis* | Eastern White Cedar | Native | Mid-size, tolerant of various moisture and soil conditions, can be used as hedging |
| | *Picea glauca* | White Spruce | Native | Best on natural soils, parks. Does not tolerate urban growing conditions well |
| | *Picea abies* | Norway Spruce | Europe | Grows faster than White Spruce (*Picea abies)* |
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Even drought tolerant trees need care and water to successfully establish.

Native trees should be preferred over other species whenever growing space and soil conditions are deemed suitable. Native trees are interconnected in the natural environment providing habitat and a food source for wildlife. Trees growing in the built environment endure greater challenges to survival, in particular along roadsides where road salt, salt spray, soil compaction, root damage and overall soil quality can compromise the survival of trees. In these situations non-native trees may be required to provide the right tree for the right site. It is recommended when tree planting that 75% of native trees shall be used as a target.

Furthermore to promote the greatest diversity in tree planting, it is recommended to strive to plant trees using the “30-20-10” rule. This means when planting trees, no more than 30% should be from the same family, no more than 20% of trees planted should be from the same genus and no more than 10% of the same species. For example of trees planted, at most 30% are from one family, Pinaceae (Spruce, Pine and Fir), 20% from one genus, Pinus (Pine) and only 10% of the same species, Pinus strobus (Eastern White Pine). This target helps to build a more resilient urban forest by encouraging diversity. This makes the risk of invasive pests such as Dutch Elm Disease or Emerald Ash Borer less of a threat of decimating the tree population.