

8.2 Central USA Plains



American Aspen / Quaking Aspen

(*Populus tremuloides*)



LIGHT: Full Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 20 - 50 ft
SPREAD: 10 - 30 ft

This species has dark green leaves that turn golden yellow in the fall and flutter and tremble in the wind. Before the leaves, small male and female flowers appear on separate catkins and trees, with female flowers giving way to small fruit.

* Not native in southern parts of ecoregion



American Plum

(*Prunus americana*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Low, Average
HEIGHT: 15 - 25 ft
SPREAD: 15 - 25 ft

This tree is a great choice for shrub borders, hedges, screens, or erosion control. It has toothed leaves, five petaled white flowers in spring, and produces edible red plums.



Bitternut Hickory

(*Carya cordiformis*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 50 - 80 ft
SPREAD: 30 - 50 ft

This tree is attractive to moths, and has 6-12 inch green leaves with 5-9 ovate leaflets that turn yellow in the fall, and green flowers in the spring. Female flowers are followed by hard shell nuts.



Black Cherry

(*Prunus serotina*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 50 - 80 ft
SPREAD: 30 - 60 ft

This plant has glossy green leaves with pointed tips, has fragrant white flowers in the spring, and produces berries that can be used in jams and jellies. Is tolerant of dry soil.



Black Willow

(*Salix nigra*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Average, High
HEIGHT: 30 - 60 ft
SPREAD: 30 - 60 ft

This versatile and fast-growing tree thrives in moist environments, adding visual interest to the landscape with its elegant leaves and grayish-brown bark. It is a great choice for gardens seeking both aesthetic appeal and tolerance of wet conditions.



Bur Oak

(*Quercus macrocarpa*)



LIGHT: Full Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 60 - 80 ft
SPREAD: 60 - 80 ft

This species has leathery dark green leaves with 5-9 lobes, 12 inches long that turn yellow to golden brown in the fall. It also has yellow-green catkins in the spring and brown oval acorns.



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Chokecherry

(*Prunus virginiana*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Low, Average
HEIGHT: 20 - 30 ft
SPREAD: 15 - 20 ft

This plant is tolerant to drought, and dry, rocky, or clay soil. It is a great choice for beds, borders, hedges, screens, and open woodland gardens. It produces white flowers and edible berries.



Eastern Cottonwood

(*Populus deltoides*)



LIGHT: Full Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 50 - 80 ft
SPREAD: 35 - 60 ft

This tree has green leaves up to 5 inches long that turn yellow in the fall. Before the leaves emerge, small male and female flowers appear on separate trees in mid-spring.



Red Maple

(*Acer rubrum*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 40 - 70 ft
SPREAD: 30 - 50 ft

This fast growing tree has tiny red flowers in early spring followed by red fruit. The dark green leaves in the spring turn to yellow or red in the fall.



Red Oak

(*Quercus rubra*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Low, Average
HEIGHT: 50 - 70 ft
SPREAD: 50 - 70 ft

With its broad, lobed leaves that turn a brilliant red color in the fall, this tree creates a vibrant display of seasonal beauty. Highly attractive to a variety of species and boasting a remarkable lifespan of up to 500 years, this majestic tree not only provides ample shade but also exhibits remarkable adaptability to various soil conditions.



Shagbark Hickory

(*Carya ovata*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Low, Average
HEIGHT: 70 - 80 ft
SPREAD: 50 - 70 ft

This tree is known for its distinctive shaggy bark, delicious edible nuts, and impressive fall colors. Its foliage transforms into vibrant shades of golden yellow and warm orange during autumn, adding a stunning display of color to the garden.



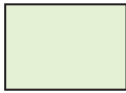
Sugar Maple

(*Acer saccharum*)



LIGHT: Full Sun, Partial Sun
WATER: Average
HEIGHT: 40 - 80 ft
SPREAD: 30 - 60 ft

Used to produce maple syrup, this tree has green-yellow flowers in the spring. It grows 3-6 inch, five-lobed leaves that are green in the summer and turn yellow, orange, or red in the fall.



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White Oak

(Quercus alba)



LIGHT: Full Sun

WATER: Low, Average

HEIGHT: 50 - 80 ft

SPREAD: 50 - 80 ft

This tree has leaves with 7-9 rounded lobes that are dark green when mature and turn red in the fall. It produces brown oval acorns that are 1 inch long. These trees live up to 600 years and are resistant to salt and mildew.