

George Mason University Landscape Guidelines
Approved Plant Materials and Standards
 APPROVED - September 2009

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native ¹	Drought Tolerant ²	Character Zones ³	Litter Level ⁴	Potential		Comments
						Mature Size (H x W)	Installation Size	
Deciduous Trees								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Native	Drought Tol.	Char. Zone	Litter Level	Pot. Mature Size	Installation Size	Comments
Hedge Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	N	Y	All	Low	30' x 30'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum (and cultivars)</i>	Y	Y	All	Low	50' x 45'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	May have surface roots
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra (and cultivars)</i>	Y	N	A, R, N	Low	50' x 50'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandiflora</i>	Y	N	N	High	60' x 100'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Beech nuts
Patmore Seedless Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Patmore"</i>	Y	Y	All	Low	50' x 35'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Urban and salt tolerant
Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Y	N	R, N	Low	70' - 80' tall	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Will outgrow small spaces
Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	N	Y	R,N,P	High	50' x 40'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Round fruit and exfoliating bark
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Y	N	N	High	60' x 70'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Acorns
Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Y	Y	All	Medium	60' x 40'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Small acorns but slender foliage
Lacebark Elm	<i>Ulmus carpinifolia</i>	N	Y	All	Low	50' x 50'	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	Urban tolerant w/ attractive bark
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Y					2 to 2-1/2" cal.	
Sweet Gum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Y					2 to 2-1/2" cal.	
Evergreen Trees								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Native	Drought Tol.	Char. Zone	Litter Level	Pot. Mature Size	Installation Size	Comments
Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	N	Y	All	Low	60' x 12'	#5 cont. (3'-4')	May outgrow small spaces
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca (and cultivars)</i>	Y	N	A,R,N	Low	30' tall	#5 cont. (3'-4')	Male and female plants needed for berries
Eastern White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Y	N	All	Low	60' x 40'	B&B (5'-6')	Not salt tolerant
Eastern Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Y						
Southern Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Y						
Ornamental Trees								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Native	Drought Tol.	Char. Zone	Litter Level	Pot. Mature Size	Installation Size	Comments
Downy Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> or <i>A. canadensis</i>	Y	N	All	Low	20' tall	B&B (5'-6')	Can be clump or tree-form
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Y	Y	All	Medium	25' x 30'	B&B (5'-6')	Small seed pods, can be clump or tree-form
Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Y	N	All	Low	15' x 15'	B&B (3'-4')	Urban tolerant
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Y	N	All	Low	25' x 30'	B&B (5'-6')	
Corneliancherry Dogwood	<i>Cornus mas</i>	N	N	All	Low	25' x 15'	B&B (5'-6')	Urban tolerant
Winter King Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus viridis "Winter King"</i>	N	Y	All	Low	20' x 20'	1-3/4" - 2" cal.	Some thorns, urban tolerant
Crapemyrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia x. (and cultivars)</i>	N	N	All	Low	15' x 15'	B&B (8'-10')	
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Y	N	All	Low	25' x 25'	B&B (5'-6')	Fallen leaves may be slippery when wet
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Y	N	R, N	Low	25'-30' tall	2 to 2-1/2" cal.	
Deciduous Shrubs								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Native	Drought Tol.	Char. Zone	Litter Level	Pot. Mature Size	Installation Size	Comments
Brilliant Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia "Brilliantissima"</i>	Y	N	R,N	N/A	7' x 4'	#3 cont. (3'-4')	Tends to spread
American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Y	Y	R,N	N/A	6' tall	#3 cont. (2'-3')	
New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	3' tall	#3 cont. (18"-24")	
Summersweet	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	5' x 6'	#3 cont. (2'-3')	Good in groupings/masses or borders
Tatarian Dogwood	<i>Cornus alba</i>	N	N	All	N/A	6' x 6'	#3 cont. (2'-3')	Plant in masses
Border Forsythia	<i>Forsythia x. intermedia</i>	N	N	All	N/A	8' x 10'	B&B (5'-6')	Needs pruning in tight areas, urban tolerant
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	12' x 12'	B&B (6'-8')	Somewhat urban tolerant
Wild Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	5' x 5'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Grows best in partial shade
Sweetspire	<i>Itea virginica</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	4' x 6'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Good in groupings/masses or borders
Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	6' x 6'	#3 cont. (2'-3')	Good for part-shade
Coast Leucothoe	<i>Leucothoe axillaris</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	3' x 6'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Best in part-shade
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Y	Y	A,R,N	N/A	8' x 8'	B&B (5'-6')	May be better in naturalistic settings
Koreanspice Viburnum	<i>Viburnum carlesii</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	6' x 6'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Somewhat urban tolerant
Arrowwood Viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	8' x 8'	#3 cont. (3'-4')	Very urban tolerant
Winterthur Viburnum	<i>Viburnum nudum "Winterthur"</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	5' x 5'	#3 cont. (2'-3')	Good in wet areas
Blackhaw Viburnum	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	15' x 12'	B&B (2'-3')	
Rhododendron								
Evergreen Shrubs								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	Native	Drought Tol.	Char. Zone	Litter Level	Pot. Mature Size	Installation Size	Comments
William Penn Barberry	<i>Berberis x gladwynensis "William Penn"</i>	N	N	All	N/A	4' x 4'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	
Chinese Holly	<i>Ilex cornuta "Bufordii Nana"</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	6' x 6'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Has several cultivars of varying heights
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	4' x 4'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Has several cultivars of varying heights
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	8' x 8'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Wet site tolerant, male/female for berries
Chinese Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	Varies	Varies	Several cultivars of varying heights (2' to 6')
Nothorn Bayberry	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	6' x 6'	#3 cont. (18"-24")	Salt tolerant, forms colonies through suckers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native ₁	Drought Tolerant ₂	Character Zone ₃	Litter Level ₄	Potential	Installation Size	Comments
						Mature Size (H x W)		
Perennial Grasses								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Native</i>	<i>Drought Tol.</i>	<i>Char. Zone</i>	<i>Litter Level</i>	<i>Pot. Mature Size</i>	<i>Installation Size</i>	<i>Comments</i>
River Oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Y	N	R,N	N/A	3' tall	# 1 cont.	
Elijah Blue Festuca	<i>Festuca ovina 'Elijah Blue'</i>	N	Y	A,R,P	N/A	8" tall	# 1 cont.	
Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Y	N	N	N/A	1' x 1.5'	# 1 cont.	Grows well in standing water
Muhlygrass	<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	Y	Y	A,R,P	N/A	3' x 3'	# 1 cont.	Pink/purple flower, very drought tolerant
Switch Grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	Varies	# 1 cont.	Height varies by cultivar (3' to 7')
Dwarf Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Hameln'</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	18" x 24"	# 1 cont.	Species form grows taller
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	3' tall	# 1 cont.	Best in groups or masses
Woolgrass bulrush	<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>	Y	N	N	N/A	4'-5' tall	# 1 cont.	Prefers wet sites
Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	6' tall	# 1 cont.	Cultivars can grow shorter
Groundcovers								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Native</i>	<i>Drought Tol.</i>	<i>Char. Zone</i>	<i>Litter Level</i>	<i>Pot. Mature Size</i>	<i>Installation Size</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Compact Youngstown Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis 'Plumosa Compacta Y'</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	2' x 5'	#3 cont. (12" to 15")	Good for masses, slopes, and erosion control
Blue Rug Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis 'Wiltoni'</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	6" x 5"	#3 cont. (12" to 15")	Good for masses, slopes, and erosion control
Big Blue Lilyturf	<i>Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'</i>	N	N	All	N/A	1' x 2'	# 1 cont.	Variegated species available
Japanese Spurge	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	N	N	All	N/A	8" tall	2" in flat	Full shade only
Sedum	<i>Sedum spp.</i>	N	N	All	N/A	18" x 24"	# 1 cont.	Available in lower-growing species
Fragrant Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica (gro-low)</i>	Y						
Woodland Phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Y						
Creeping Phlox	<i>Phlox stolonifera or P. subblata</i>	Y						
Perennial Plants								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Native</i>	<i>Drought Tol.</i>	<i>Char. Zone</i>	<i>Litter Level</i>	<i>Pot. Mature Size</i>	<i>Installation Size</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Y	Y	A,R,N	N/A	2' x 1.5'	# 1 cont.	
Heart-leaved Aster	<i>Aster cordifolius</i>	Y	Y	N	N/A	3' tall	# 1 cont.	Woods or grassy clearings, natural settings
White Wood Aster	<i>Aster divaricatus</i>	Y	Y	N	N/A	2' tall	# 1 cont.	Woods or grassy clearings, natural settings
Threadleaf Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>	Y	Y	A,R,N	N/A	2' tall	# 1 cont.	Variety of yellow tones
Delphinium	<i>Delphinium exaltatum (and cultivars)</i>	Y	N	R,N	N/A	5' x 1.5'	# 1 cont.	
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Y	N	All	N/A	2-3' tall	# 1 cont.	
Joe Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>	Y	N	N	N/A	5' tall	# 1 cont.	
Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Y	N	R,N	N/A	2' tall	# 1 cont.	Grows better in part shade
Ox-eye Sunflower	<i>Helioopsis helianthoides</i>	Y	Y	A,R,N	N/A	4' x 3'	# 1 cont.	Border plant or naturalized in open area
Daylily	<i>Hemerocallis spp.</i>	N	N	All	N/A	2' x 2'	# 1 cont.	Numerous varieties and cultivars available
Hosta	<i>Hosta spp.</i>	N	N	All	N/A	Varies	# 1 cont.	Numerous varieties available, needs shade
Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Y	N	R,N	N/A	2' x 2'	# 1 cont.	Border plant or naturalized in open area
Bee Balm	<i>Monarda didyma (and cultivars)</i>	Y	N	A,R,N	N/A	3' x 3'	# 1 cont.	
Russian Sage	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	N	Y	All	N/A	3' x 3'	# 1 cont.	
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Y	Y	All	N/A	3' x 4'	# 1 cont.	
Autumn Joy Sedum	<i>Sedum 'Autumn Joy'</i>	N	N	All	N/A	1.5'-2' tall	# 1 cont.	
Blue-Eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Y	N	N	N/A	1.5' x 1'	# 1 cont.	Native plant gardens, borders, natural areas
Tall Meadow Rue	<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>	Y	Y	N	N/A	4' tall	# 1 cont.	Background plant in natural settings
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Y	N	N	N/A	2' x 2'	# 1 cont.	
False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Y					# 1 cont.	
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia Canadensis</i>	Y					# 1 cont.	
Bluestar	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	Y					# 1 cont.	
Ferns								
	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Native</i>	<i>Drought Tol.</i>	<i>Char. Zone</i>	<i>Litter Level</i>	<i>Pot. Mature Size</i>	<i>Installation Size</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Y						
Hay-scented Fern	<i>Dennstaedtia punctiloba</i>	Y						
Interrupted Fern	<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>	Y						
Ostrich Fern	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Y						
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Y						
Turf Lawn Substitutes								
	<i>Supplier Name</i>							
Native Sun Turfgrass	Native American Seed	N/A	Y	All	N/A	5"-8" tall	Seed	http://www.seedsource.com/
Enviro-Turf	Bluestem Nurseries	N/A	Y	All	N/A	4"-6" tall	Seed	http://www.bluestem.ca/
Original No-Mow Grass	NoMow Grass	N/A	Y	All	N/A	3"-6" tall	Seed	http://nomowgrass.com/index.htm
Improved Lush Blue-Green	NoMow Grass	N/A	Y	All	N/A	4"-7" tall	Seed	http://nomowgrass.com/index.htm

1. The term "native" for this report means that plants are native to the State of Virginia

2. Drought tolerance was based on publications that suggested that these plants were adaptable to dry sites, soils, and conditions and would survive dry conditions.

3. A = Academic; R = Residential; N = Natural; P = Parking

4. High = Large number of fruits/nuts/pods dropped; Medium = Some fruits/nuts/pods dropped; Low = Negligible amount of fruits/nuts/pods dropped