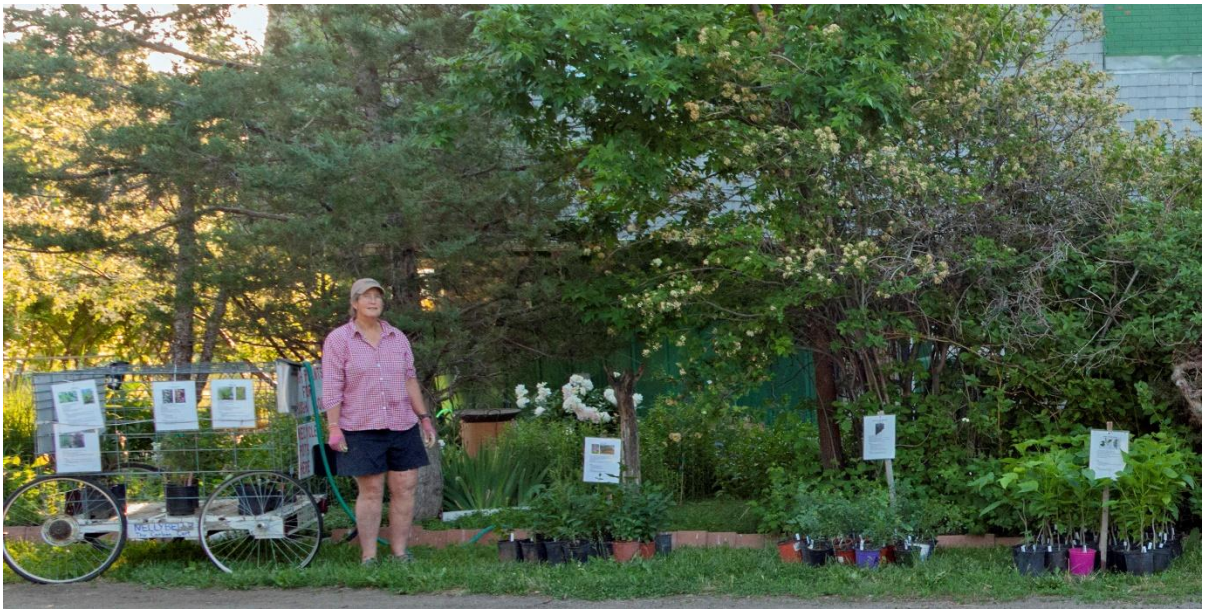
Available Seedling Trees



Burr Oak

(Quercus macrocarpa)

A large rounded wide-spreading tree with an open form and dark green glossy leaves.
Suitable to 7000 feet elevation
Corky ridged twigs and unusual branching pattern makes for good winter interest.
Yellowish brown fall foliage
Slow to moderate growth rate
Native to the Midwestern US
Very large acorns with fringed caps attract wildlife

Strengths:

- Tolerates alkaline soils, drought and air pollutants.
- A very rugged long-lived tree.
- Fire-resistant thick corky bark
- Few diseases or insects cause damage to burr oaks

Weaknesses:

- **This tree will get extremely large. Site it carefully.**
- Does not tolerate prolonged flooding.

Horse Chestnut

(Aesculus hippocastanum)

Grows 40 to 70 feet in height.
Suitable to 7000 ft. elevation. Hardiness zone: 4
Foliage is palmate.
Ornate pink flowers grow in erect spikes in May**.**
Seedpods are 2", round and spiny.
Fall foliage is bright red-gold.
Seed source is horse chestnuts at Pine and Broadway.

Strengths:

- Makes a good street tree
- Grows rapidly while young and slows as it grows into maturity
- Tolerant to a variety of soil types

Weaknesses:

- **Tree is NOT drought-resistant. Needs supplemental watering.**
- Susceptible to leaf scorch in late summer

Ohio Buckeye
(Aesculus Glabra)

Grows to 50 feet tall.
State tree of Ohio and native to the Mid-West.
Suitable to elevation 5500 feet. Hardiness zone: 4
Foliage is palmate. Fall foliage is bright orange.
Ornate yellowish flowers grow in erect spikes in May**.**
Seedpods are 2", round and spiny.

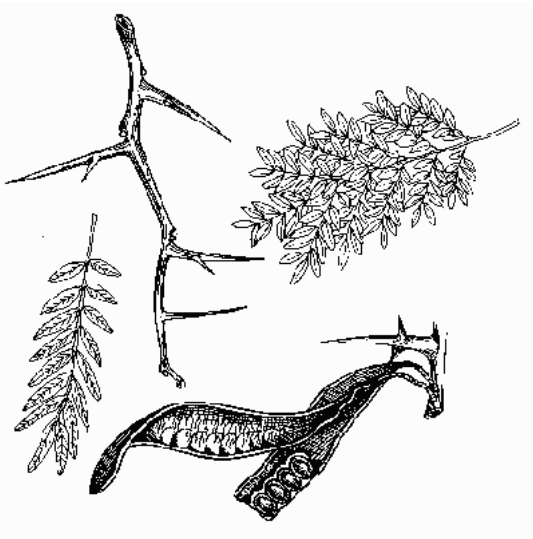
Strengths:

- Interesting flowers, foliage and fall color
- Will tolerate alkaline soils
- A buckeye nut in the pocket is said to bring good luck

Weaknesses:

- **Tree is NOT drought-resistant. Needs moist well-drained soil.**
- Prefers partial shade and some protection when small.
- If planted in dry sunny locations, leaves scorch in mid-summer.
- Susceptible to leaf blotch in late summer.
- Crushed leaves have an unpleasant odor.
- All parts of this tree are poisonous to livestock and humans.

Common Honey Locust
(Gleditsia triacanthos)



A fast-growing medium-sized tree adapted to alkaline soils.
Suitable to 7500 ft. elevation
Up to 70 feet tall and 50 feet wide at maturity.
Native to eastern North America; Zone: 4 to 9
Extremely salt tolerant, withstanding a wide range of conditions.
Drought resistant. Prefers full sun.
Does best in moist bottomlands or soils with high pH.
Long compound leaves have little leaflets giving the foliage a lacy effect.

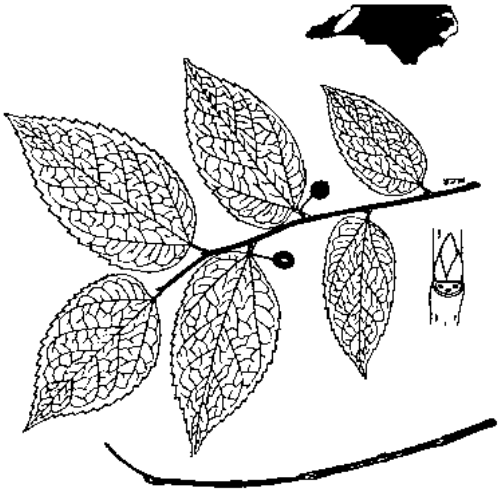
Strengths:

- Lacy foliage gives a loose, open shade ideal for patios and shade plants.
- Bright green foliage turns yellow in fall.
- In autumn, the leaflets filter into the grass below, requiring little raking.
- Fast growth but relatively short-lived (about 120 years).
- Valued in areas where shade is wanted quickly.
- Produces a high quality, durable wood that polishes well

Weaknesses:

- Hazardous thorns on branches
- Long, flat sickle-shaped twisted seed pods, 7 to 8 inches long and 1 inch wide, fall off tree in the fall.

Common Hackberry
(Celtis occidentalis)



Medium-fast growing and withstands heat, drought, wind, and alkaline soils
Suitable to 7500 ft. elevation
Crown Height - 40 to 60 feet. Crown Width - 25 to 45 feet.
Narrow when young, broadening at the top and arching out when mature.
Bark Color - Grayish with distinct narrow, corky ridges that appear as eroded wart-like projections.
Native Americans used fruits to flavor meat in same manner as black pepper.
Fruit, a rounded, 1/4 inch pitted fruit called a drupe.

Strengths:

- Low water requirements and a high tolerance to salt and alkali soils and urban conditions. A great tree for harsh conditions. Native to plains.
- Yellow fall color
- Fruit is eaten by many birds and mammals. Excellent tree for wildlife
- Does best on moist well-drained sites. Needs water until established.

Weaknesses:

- Commonly damaged by browsing rodents, rabbits, and deer.
- Nipple gall and witches'-broom infest foliage and twigs but do not affect tree health. Some people consider them unsightly.

Catalpa (Catalpa speciosa)

Also called Indian Bean, Catawba, and Cigar Tree
Suitable to 7000 ft. elevation
Native to the Midwest United States; hardy to zone 4
A very fast growing medium sized tree with large heart-shaped leaves
40' to 60' tall and about half as wide
Lovely large white flowers on 4-8 inch long panicles in late June
Fruit is a long cigar-like pod.
Seed source is catalpa in Wilderness Place office park.

Strengths

- Fast growing
- Very tolerant of tough conditions
- A light-weight rot-resistant wood suitable for fence posts or furniture
- Tolerates hot, dry sites

Weaknesses

- Fall color is poor; leaves often fall before turning.
- Weak wood. The tops can break off in our windstorms.