

Common Name	Tree Type	Height	Spread	Growth Rate	Benefits	Plant Under Utility Lines?	Comments
Arizona Cypress	Evergreen	25-50'	25-50'	Moderate	Bark Texture/Color	no	Silvery foliage. Well-suited to limestone soils. Attractive, peeling red bark.
Anacacho Orchid	Deciduous	To 15'	To 10'	Moderate	Attractive, Aromatic Flowers	yes	Very attractive small tree that will flower in full or part sun.
Bald Cypress	Deciduous	50' +	25-50'	Moderate	Wildlife; Fall Color	no	Well-adapted to many soil conditions and moisture. Handles wet areas well.
Bigtooth Maple	Deciduous	25-50'	25-35'	Moderate	Fall color	no	Native to the Hill Country; good for well-drained limestone soils. Excellent fall color.
Bur Oak	Deciduous	50' +	50' +	Rapid	Unique Leaves and Acorns	no	Excellent tree, not utilized enough.
Carolina Buckhorn	Deciduous	To 25'	To 15'	Slow	Wildlife; Fall Color; Fruit	yes	Attractive fall color and fruit. Can plant near utility lines.
Carolina Cherry Laurel	Evergreen	25-30'	To 25'	Moderate	Wildlife; Flower	no	Makes a good screening hedge. Requires good drainage.
Cedar Elm	Deciduous	25-50'	25-35'	Slow	Wildlife; Fall color	no	Well-adapted shade tree for Austin. Some problems with aphids and powdery mildew.
Chinkapin Oak	Deciduous	50' +	25-50'	Moderate	Wildlife	no	Good for limestone soils. Attractive, light-colored bark.
Eastern Red Cedar	Evergreen	To 45'	To 25'	Rapid	Wildlife; Aromatic Wood	no	Fast growing and adaptable evergreen for screening and shade.
Escarpment Black Cherry	Deciduous	25-50'	To 25'	Moderate	Wildlife; Flower; Fruit	no	Attractive, upright tree with showy fall color and interesting bark. Not for heavy, clay soils.
Desert Willow	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Rapid	Wildlife; Flower	yes	Showy flowers through summer. Needs good drainage. Can plant near utility lines.
Eve's Necklace	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Moderate	Flower; Fruit	yes	Attractive flower in spring and fruit through fall and winter. Will tolerate tight, wet soils. Can plant near utility lines.
Lacey Oak	Deciduous	20-30'	To 25'	Slow	Texture; Color	no	Unusual native oak for its bluish foliage.
Live Oak	Evergreen	25-50'	50' +	Moderate	Wildlife	no	Limit use to areas with few live oaks. Allow plenty of room. Oak will disease is a problem.
Mesquite	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Slow	Wildlife; Flower	no	Extremely drought-tolerant with desirable light, filtered shade. Thornless varieties available. Can plant near utility lines.
Mexican Buckeye	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Moderate	Wildlife; Flower	no	Good as a multi-stemmed specimen. Can plant near utility lines.
Mexican White Oak	Semi-evergreen	To 55'	To 50'	Rapid	Dense Foliage; Wildlife Food	no	Dark green leaves, dense foliage and rapid growth make this a fine shade tree.
Mexican Plum	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Moderate	Wildlife; Flower; Fall Color; Bark Texture/Color	yes	Bright white flowers and edible fruit. May need protection from winter winds. Can plant near utility lines.
Pecan	Deciduous	50' +	50' +	Slow	Edible Fruit; Wildlife	no	State tree of Texas. Plant with plenty of room! Grows slowly until well-established.
Possunhaw Holly	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Moderate	Fruit; Wildlife; Fall and Winter Color	yes	Surface Roots; Freeze Damage; Striking native plant. Bright red berries in late fall and winter. Can plant near utility lines.
Texas Ash	Deciduous	To 50'	To 30'	Rapid	Wildlife; Fall Color	no	A very attractive alternative to Arizona Ash. Darker leaf color and denser, more upright growth pattern.
Texas Mountain Laurel	Evergreen	To 25'	To 25'	Slow	Wildlife; Flower	yes	Excellent drought-tolerant tree. Outstanding fragrant spring blooms. Needs good drainage. Can plant near utility lines.
Texas Persimmon	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Slow	Wildlife; Bark Texture/Color	yes	Drought-tolerant native with attractive exfoliating bark. Small edible, black fruit. Can plant near utility lines.
Texas Redbud	Deciduous	To 25'	To 25'	Moderate	Flower; Fall Color	no	Several Redbuds available. "Texensis" best for our area. Eastern variety does poorly. Can plant near utility lines.
Texas Red Oak	Deciduous	25'-50'	To 25'	Moderate	Wildlife; Bark Texture; Fall Color/Acorns	no	Several Red Oaks available. "Texana" best for our area. Sometimes referred to as Quercus shumardii var. texana.
Texas Sabal Palm	Evergreen	40-50'	10'	Slow	Wildlife	no	An interesting and different growth form for Central Texas yards and landscapes.
Mexican Sycamore	Deciduous	50' +	50' +	Rapid	Wildlife; Bark Texture/Color	no	Provide plenty of room and a moist site.
Western Soapberry	Deciduous	25-30'	25-30'	Moderate	Fall color	no	Large amber berries in fall through winter.
Yaupon Holly	Evergreen	To 25'	To 25'	Moderate	Wildlife; Attractive Fruit; Sun or Shade-Tolerant	yes	Females hold bright red berries through winter. Very hardy. Bushy unless pruned. Can plant near utility lines.

## Tree Species Selection Chart for Central Texas

# Central Texas Tree Guide

This guide is intended to help you choose and plant trees for Central Texas. For more information about evaluating your site, choosing trees, planting and caring for them go to [www.treefolks.org](http://www.treefolks.org).

## Planting your tree

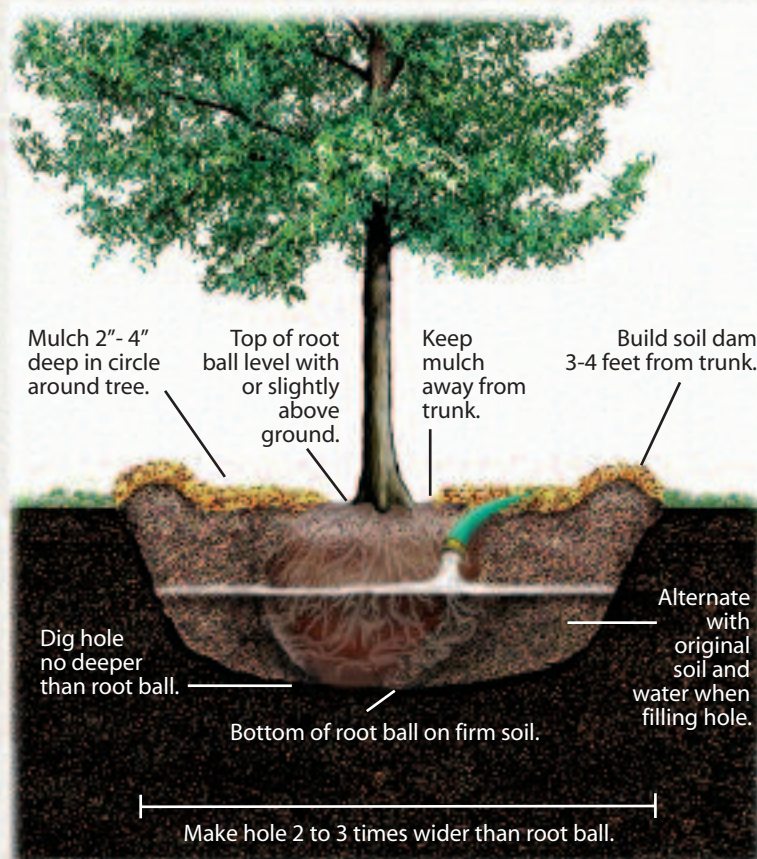
**1. Select the Right Tree For the Right Place.** Proper tree planting begins with good planning. Determine your planting goals and match the mature size, soil and moisture requirements of your trees to the site. (Refer to the tree chart on the back and the tree illustrations inside.)

**2. Mark out a planting area** two to five times wider than the rootball diameter (the wider the better). Loosen this area to about an 8-inch depth. This will enable your tree to extend a dense mat of tiny roots well out into the soil in the first one to ten weeks in the ground.

**3. In the center of the planting area,** dig a hole at least twice the diameter of the rootball and no deeper than the depth of soil in the rootball. The bottom of the ball should rest on solid undisturbed soil. When finished, you want the soil at the base of the tree to be at the same level on the trunk as it was in the container.

**4. Make sure the sides of the hole are rough and uneven.** In very hard soils, a rough edge to the hole may help force new roots to grow out into the surrounding soil.

**5. Place the tree in the hole.** If the tree is in a container, pull the container away from the root ball. Don't pull the tree out by its trunk. Place the root ball in the center of the hole and adjust the tree so it is straight and at the proper level. Stand back and look at the tree now before you put the soil back into the hole. You can make careful adjustments at this time without seriously harming the root ball.



**6. For balled and burlapped trees,** rest the root ball in the center of the hole, and re-shape the hole so the tree will be straight and at the proper level. After adjusting the tree, pull the burlap and any other material away from the sides and top of the root ball. Carefully remove the burlap material from the hole.

**7. Backfill with the original soil.** Mixing fertilizer, compost, or other material with the original soil is never recommended.

**8. Fill until the hole is half full (or half empty!).** Flood the hole with a slow hose or tamp gently with your foot to firm the soil. Repeat until the hole is full. Do not press too firmly — only firm enough to hold the tree upright. The best soil for root growth has spaces for both air and water but large air pockets can cause problems.

**9. Construct a small dam or berm** three feet in diameter around the tree. This dam will help hold water until it soaks into the soil, rather than letting it run off across the surface.

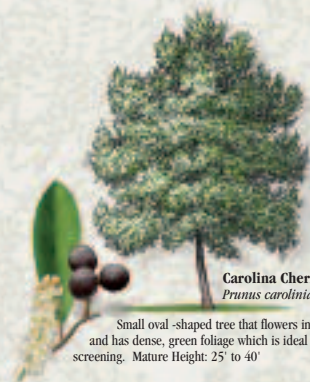
**10. Cover the entire loosened area of soil** with 3 to 4 inches of mulch: shredded wood or bark, compost, or dry leaves, for example. Mulch will slow water loss, reduce competition from weeds and grasses, will moderate soil temperature and will provide a small amount of nutrients.

# Tree Growing Guide

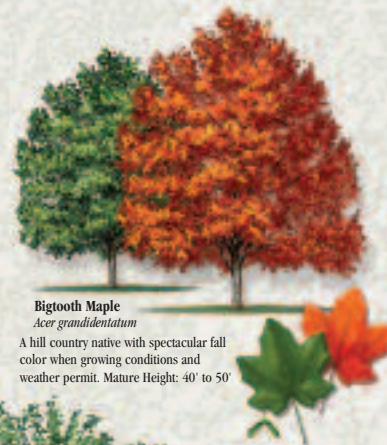
## FOR CENTRAL TEXAS



**Bald Cypress** *Taxodium distichum*  
Deciduous wetland native that can grow over 100 feet. Pyramidal shape, fall color and adaptability make it a favorite in the South. Mature Height: 60' to 80'



**Carolina Cherry Laurel** *Prunus caroliniana*  
Small oval-shaped tree that flowers in spring and has dense, green foliage which is ideal for screening. Mature Height: 25' to 40'



**Bigtooth Maple** *Acer grandidentatum*  
A hill country native with spectacular fall color when growing conditions and weather permit. Mature Height: 40' to 50'



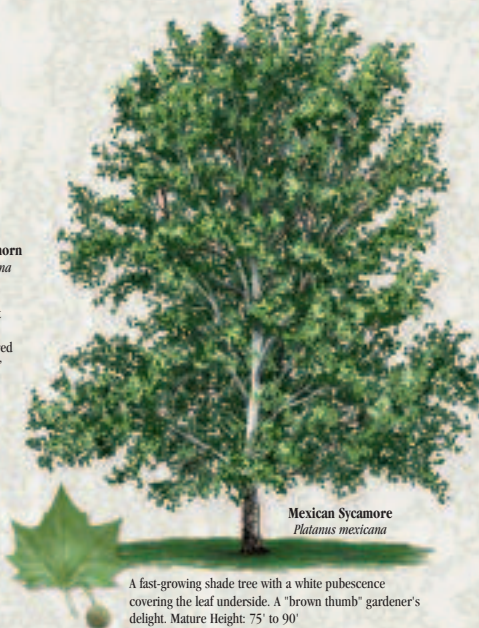
**Pecan** *Carya illinoensis*  
This State Tree of Texas is a superb shade and nut tree, but is a very slow grower when located in dry or shallow soils. But when properly placed, this large tree can reach 65 feet or more at maturity. Mature Height: 50' to 70'



**Mesquite** *Prosopis glandulosa*  
Yellow, fragrant flowers in spring and summer. North American native with spreading, rounded canopy and many drooping, crooked branches low on trunk. Mature Height: 30'



**Carolina Buckthorn** *Rhamnus caroliniana*  
Native to most of eastern and midwestern U.S., this small, bright green, fruit-bearing tree attracts wildlife. Showy yellow-orange or red fall color. Mature height 12' to 15'



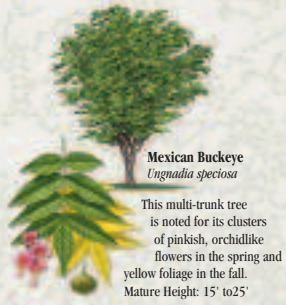
**Mexican Sycamore** *Platanus mexicana*  
A fast-growing shade tree with a white pubescence covering the leaf underside. A "brown thumb" gardener's delight. Mature Height: 75' to 90'



**Anacacho Orchid Tree** *Bauhinia congesta*  
Fragrant and showy white blooms appearing in the spring and occasionally blooms intermittently in the fall. Mature Height: 15'



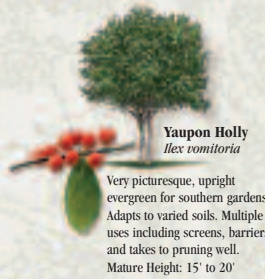
**Escarpment Black Cherry** *Prunus serotina var. eximia*  
White flowers appear in early spring with new leaves. Lustrous green leaves turn a beautiful golden yellow in the fall. Mature Height: 35' to 50'



**Mexican Buckeye** *Ungadia speciosa*  
This multi-trunk tree is noted for its clusters of pinkish, orchidlike flowers in the spring and yellow foliage in the fall. Mature Height: 15' to 25'



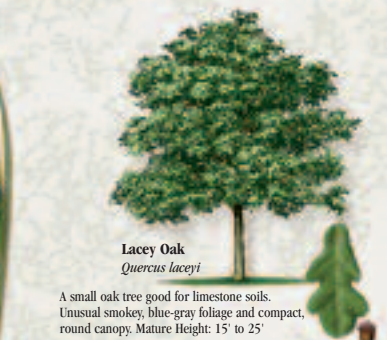
**Chinkapin Oak** *Quercus muhlenbergii*  
Grows best in full sun on well-drained soil. Leaves turn red, yellow, orange and brown before dropping in fall. Acorns are edible. Mature Height: 40' to 50'



**Yaupon Holly** *Ilex vomitoria*  
Very picturesque, upright evergreen for southern gardens. Adapts to varied soils. Multiple uses including screens, barriers and takes to pruning well. Mature Height: 15' to 20'



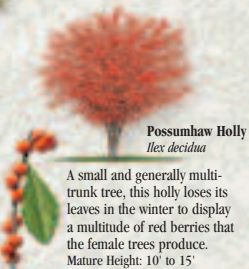
**Desert Willow** *Chilopsis linearis*  
Trumpet-shaped blooms at tips of branches — fragrant and orchid-like in shades of lavender and pink. Regularly visited by hummingbirds. Mature Height: 15' to 25'



**Lacey Oak** *Quercus laceyi*  
A small oak tree good for limestone soils. Unusual smoky, blue-gray foliage and compact, round canopy. Mature Height: 15' to 25'



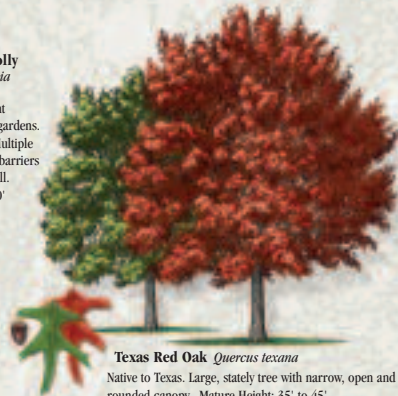
**Western Soapberry** *Sapindus drummondii*  
This excellent shade tree is well suited to the urban environment. Name derives from Indian use of crushed berries to make soap suds. Showy fall color. Mature height 40' to 50'



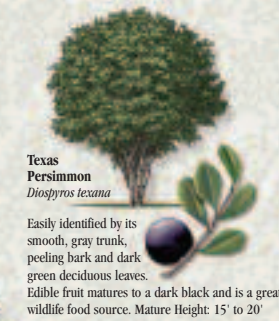
**Possumhaw Holly** *Ilex decidua*  
A small and generally multi-trunk tree, this holly loses its leaves in the winter to display a multitude of red berries that the female trees produce. Mature Height: 10' to 15'



**Mexican White Oak** *Quercus polymorpha*  
Native to Northern Mexico and south Texas, this fast growing oak has large dark green foliage. Mature Height: 55'



**Texas Red Oak** *Quercus texana*  
Native to Texas. Large, stately tree with narrow, open and rounded canopy. Mature Height: 35' to 45'



**Texas Persimmon** *Diospyros texana*  
Easily identified by its smooth, gray trunk, peeling bark and dark green deciduous leaves. Edible fruit matures to a dark black and is a great wildlife food source. Mature Height: 15' to 20'



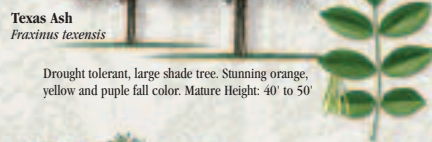
**Bur Oak** *Quercus macrocarpa*  
Huge tree, with impressive crown, massive trunk, stout branches and coarse texture. Very large acorns are covered with furry, bur-like cap. Mature Height: 70' to 90'



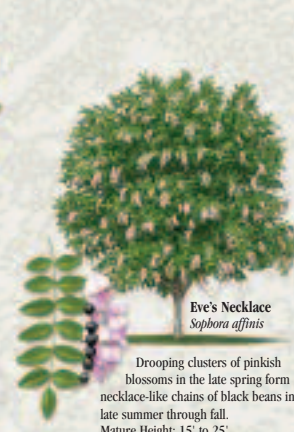
**Eastern Red Cedar** *Juniperus virginiana*  
Will grow almost anywhere including sandy soils. Has an open and wide-spreading habit. Mature Height: 30' to 45'



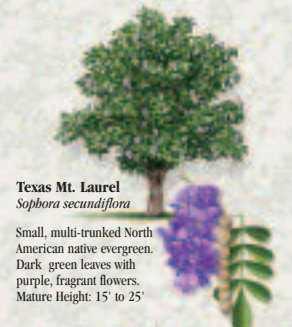
**Cedar Elm** *Ulmus crassifolia*  
Native to the hill country and south central U.S. Very adaptable deciduous tree for the urban environment. Make a great shade or street tree. Mature Height: 50' to 70'



**Texas Ash** *Fraxinus texensis*  
Drought tolerant, large shade tree. Stunning orange, yellow and purple fall color. Mature Height: 40' to 50'



**Eye's Necklace** *Sophora affinis*  
Drooping clusters of pinkish blossoms in the late spring form necklace-like chains of black beans in late summer through fall. Mature Height: 15' to 25'



**Texas Mt. Laurel** *Sophora secundiflora*  
Small, multi-trunked North American native evergreen. Dark green leaves with purple, fragrant flowers. Mature Height: 15' to 25'



**Texas Sabal Palm** *Sabal texensis*  
Good in sidewalk cutout, highways and parking lots. Hurricane resistant. Mature Height: 40' to 50'



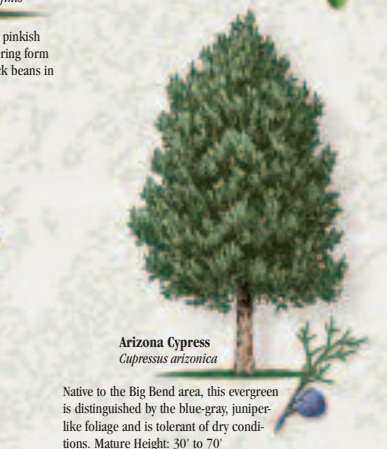
**Mexican Plum** *Prunus mexicana*  
Very showy white flowers in early spring. Small, tart plums. Mature Height: 20' to 25'



**Escarpment Live Oak** *Quercus fusiformis*  
Large, wide-spreading evergreen with massive, horizontal, arching branches. Mature Height: 60' to 80'



**Texas Redbud** *Cercis canadensis var. texensis*  
Small deciduous, understory tree with delightful pink blossoms in early spring before leaves emerge. Mature Height: 20' to 30'



**Arizona Cypress** *Cupressus arizonica*  
Native to the Big Bend area, this evergreen is distinguished by the blue-gray, juniper-like foliage and is tolerant of dry conditions. Mature Height: 30' to 70'

Approximate Tree Heights at Maturity

