

Best & Recommended Trees for North Texas

Soil, temperature, and rainfall dictate what tree species will grow successfully in an area. The following trees have proven over time to be good selections for **North Central Texas**, however, there are potential problems with all tree species.

On most residential lots, it is recommended to plant 2" to 4" caliper trees. Generally, it takes two to three years for a tree to become established and thrive. Larger trees are available; then again, the larger the tree is at planting, the longer it takes to establish itself and the lower the survival rate.

Contact a reputable nursery to purchase, plant, and guarantee your tree. We recommend the following trees for North Central Texas:

Recommended SCREENING TREES:

- BLUE POINT JUNIPER
- CHINESE PHOTINIA
- CAROLINA CHERRY LAUREL
- EAST PALATKA HOLLY *
- EASTERN RED CEDAR
- LIGUSTRUM *
- LITTLE GEM MAGNOLIA *
- NELLIE R. STEVENS HOLLY
- SAVANNAH HOLLY *
- WAX MYRTLE
- YAUPON HOLLY
- ARBORVITAE

Recommended ORNAMENTAL TREES:

- BLUE POINT JUNIPER
- CAROLINA BUCKTHORN
- CAROLINA CHERRY LAUREL
- CREPE MYRTLE
- DECIDUOUS HOLLY
- DESERT WILLOW
- EAST PALATKA HOLLY *
- FIG
- ITALIAN CYPRESS *
- JAPANESE MAPLE
- LACEY OAK

- MEXICAN BUCKEYE
- NELLIE R. STEVENS HOLLY
- OKLAHOMA REDBUD
- SAVANNAH HOLLY
- SUMAC
- TEXAS MOUNTAIN LAUREL *
- VITEX
- WAX MYRTLE *
- YAUPON HOLLY

Recommended MEDIUM TREES:

- ARISTOCRAT PEAR
- CHINESE PISTACHE *
- EASTERN RED CEDAR
- EVE'S NECKLACE *
- FOREST PANSY REDBUD
- GINKGO BILOBA *
- LITTLE GEM MAGNOLIA *
- SHANTUNG MAPLE *

Recommended LARGE TREES:

- AMERICAN ELM
- ARIZONA CYPRESS
- BALD CYPRESS
- BOIS D' ARC
- BUR OAK
- CEDAR ELM
- CHINQUAPIN OAK
- DEODAR CEDAR
- LACEBARK ELM *
- LIVE OAK *
- PECAN *
- PERSIMMON
- SHUMARD RED OAK *
- SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA *

Recommended PALM TREES:

- CALIFORNIA FAN PALM *

- MEXICAN FAN PALM *
- NEEDLE PALM
- SABAL PALM
- WINDMILL PALM

* Please see the Issues Details below or contact your arborist regarding these trees. For additional tree species information, see the [Texas Tree Trails](#)® web site.

***POTENTIAL ISSUES WITH SELECTED SPECIES OR MAINTENANCE:**

California Fan Palm: Can suffer from freeze damage in severe winters.

Chinese Pistache: Girdling roots can often be a problem due to being growing in a container. But this is true for all container grown trees. Listed as an invasive species.

East Palatka Holly: Not a native tree, but seems to perform quite well. Growth can be poor and foliage can be chlorotic in alkaline soil.

See http://hort.ufl.edu/database/documents/pdf/tree_fact_sheets/ileatta.pdf for more information.

Eve's Necklace: Grows very slowly, sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils.

Ginkgo Biloba: Grows very slowly, recommended not to plant the female due to its foul smelling fruit.

Italian Cypress: Prefers full sunlight; also spider mites and fungal infections can be a problem and can suffer from freeze damage in severe winters.

Lacebark Elm: Sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils, very susceptible to [Cotton Root Rot](#) and borers.

Ligustrum: Can suffer from freeze damage in severe winters, listed as an invasive species.

Little Gem Magnolia: Prefers full sunlight, sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils.

Live Oak: Susceptible to Oak Wilt disease.

Mexican Fan Palm: Can suffer from freeze damage in severe winters.

Pecan: Extremely large tree, significant litter problem.

Savannah Holly: Prefers full sunlight, sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils.

Shantung Maple: Sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils. The tree has not been in our landscape for an extended period of time, so there is some question of possible long term problems. But so far, it is doing very well and seems to be adapted to our alkaline soils.

Shumard Red Oak: Susceptible to Oak Wilt disease, sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils.

Southern Magnolia: Develops very visible surface roots, sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils, foliage can be chlorotic in alkaline soil.

Texas Mountain Laurel: Grows very slowly, prefers full sunlight, sensitive to poorly drained or over-watered soils.

Wax Myrtle: Wood is very weak and breaks easily from wind, ice and excessive weight at the ends of branches.

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