



Recommended Native Trees, Shrubs & Vines for Naturalization Projects in the Upper Thames River Watershed



The following woody plants (90 species) are native to southern Ontario and grow naturally in the Upper Thames River watershed (Middlesex, Oxford and Perth Counties). They are adapted to the local climate and so are hardier than non-native species. Some species have very specific sun, moisture and soil requirements and may not do well in all sites; see the following pages for habitat details.

All species may be available at nurseries that sell native plants (see nurseries list on last page).

(R): Listed as rare in Ontario. Do not plant in large numbers
(C): Carolinian species, rarely found north of London

Trees

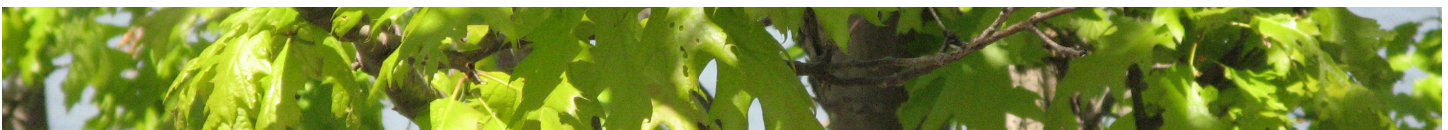
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple
<i>Acer saccharum ssp. nigrum</i>	Black Maple
<i>Acer saccharum ssp. saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Downy Serviceberry
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw (R, C)
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	Yellow Birch
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	White Birch
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Blue Beech
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved Dogwood
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood (R)
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash
<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	Black Ash
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash or Red Ash
<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Kentucky Coffee-tree (R, C)
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut (R)
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Red Cedar
<i>Larix laricina</i>	Tamarack
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree (C)
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Gum (R, C)
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop-hornbeam or Ironwood
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore (C)
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	Balsam Poplar
<i>Populus deltoids</i>	Eastern Cottonwood
<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Large-tooth Aspen
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Trembling Aspen
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American Plum (C)
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Canada Plum
<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Pin Cherry
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak
<i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin Oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras (C)
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Eastern Hemlock
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm or White Elm
<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Slippery Elm or Red Elm

Shrubs

<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Canada Serviceberry
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Smooth Serviceberry
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved Dogwood
<i>Cornus amomum ssp. oblique</i>	Silky Dogwood
<i>Cornus foemina ssp. racemosa</i>	Grey Dogwood
<i>Cornus rugosa</i>	Round-leaved Dogwood
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red-osier Dogwood
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American Hazelnut
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Beaked Hazel
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Witch-hazel
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Choke Cherry
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth Sumac
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac
<i>Ribes americanum</i>	Wild Black Currant
<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>	Prickly Gooseberry
<i>Rosa blanda</i>	Smooth Rose
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Carolina Rose or Pasture Rose (C)
<i>Rosa palustris</i>	Swamp Rose
<i>Salix amygdaloides</i>	Peach-leaved Willow
<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Beaked Willow
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow
<i>Salix eriocephala</i>	Willow
<i>Salix exigua</i>	Sandbar Willow
<i>Salix lucida</i>	Shining Willow
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Common Elderberry
<i>Sambucus racemosa ssp. pubens</i>	Red-berried Elder
<i>Spirea alba</i>	Narrow-leaved Meadow-sweet
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	Highbush Cranberry

Vines & Woody Groundcovers

<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	Climbing Bittersweet
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgin's-bower
<i>Euonymus obovata</i>	Running Strawberry-bush
<i>Lonicera canadensis</i>	Fly Honeysuckle
<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridge-berry
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	Riverbank Grape



Light and Soil Requirements of Recommended Trees, Shrubs, Vines & Groundcovers

Trees				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture	Soil Type
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	Variety
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple	Sun	Wet to Moist	Rich
<i>Acer saccharum ssp. nigrum</i>	Black Maple	Shade	Moist	Rich floodplains
<i>Acer saccharum ssp. saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	Part Sun to Shade	Moist	Rich, well-drained
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Downy Serviceberry	Part Sun	Moist to Dry	Sandy, Rocky
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw (R, C)	Shade	Wet to Moist	Rich
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	Yellow Birch	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	Rich
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	White Birch	Sun	Variety	Variety
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Blue Beech	Shade	Moist	Deep, rich
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory	Part Sun	Moist	Rich
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory	Full to Part Sun	Moist	Rich
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry	Part Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved Dogwood	Part Sun	Moist	Deep, well-drained
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood (R)	Part Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash	Part Sun	Moist	Deep, well-drained
<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	Black Ash	Sun	Wet	Organic, rich
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash or Red Ash	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	Variety
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky Coffee-tree (R, C)	Part Sun	Moist	Deep, rich
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut (R)	Sun	Moist to Dry	Rocky to well-drained
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	Sun	Moist	Fertile, well drained
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Red Cedar	Sun	Moist to Dry	Rocky, sandy soils
<i>Larix laricina</i>	Tamarack	Part Sun	Variety	Variety
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree (C)	Sun	Wet to Moist	Sandy, sand loam, rich
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Gum (R, C)	Part Sun	Wet	Rich
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop-hornbeam or Ironwood	Shade	Moist	Well-drained
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore (C)	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	Rich, poorly-drained
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine	Sun	Moist to Dry	Variety
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	Balsam Poplar	Sun	Wet to Moist	Rich
<i>Populus deltoids</i>	Eastern Cottonwood	Sun	Moist	Rich
<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Large-tooth Aspen	Sun	Moist to Dry	Variety
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Trembling Aspen	Sun	Moist to Dry	Variety
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American Plum (C)	Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Canada Plum	Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Pin Cherry	Sun	Moist to Dry	Variety
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry	Sun	Moist to Dry	Variety
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak	Full to Part Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	Rich
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak	Full to Part Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin Oak	Part Sun	Dry	Sandy, rocky
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak	Full to Part Sun	Moist to Dry	Variety
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak	Sun	Dry	Sandy to clay
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras (C)	Part Sun	Moist	Variety
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar	Part Sun	Wet to Dry	Variety over limestone
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood	Part Shade	Moist.	Rich
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Eastern Hemlock	Shade	Moist (and cool)	Variety
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm or White Elm	Part Sun	Wet to Dry	Variety
<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Slippery Elm or Red Elm	Sun	Moist	Rich

Shrubs				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture	Soil Type
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Canada Serviceberry	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Smooth Serviceberry	Part Sun	Moist	Well-drained
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush	Part Sun	Wet	Loam
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved Dogwood	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Cornus amomum ssp.obliqua</i>	Silky Dogwood	Sun	Wet	All
<i>Cornus foemina ssp.racemosa</i>	Grey Dogwood	Sun	Moist	Sand
<i>Cornus rugosa</i>	Round-leaved Dogwood	Part Sun	Moist to Dry	Sand
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red-osier Dogwood	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American Hazelnut	Part Sun	Dry	Sand
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Beaked Hazel	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Witch-hazel	Part Sun	Moist to Dry	All
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry	Part Sun	Wet	Clay, Loam
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper	Sun	Dry	All
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush	Shade	Wet to Moist	Loam
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark	Part Sun	Moist	Loam
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Choke Cherry	Part Sun to Shade	Moist	All
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac	Sun	Moist to Dry	Sand
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth Sumac	Sun	Moist to Dry	Sandy, rocky
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac	Sun	Moist to Dry	All
<i>Ribes americanum</i>	Wild Black Currant	Shade	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>	Prickly Gooseberry	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Rosa blanda</i>	Smooth Rose	Sun	Moist to Dry	Sand
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Carolina Rose or Pasture Rose (C)	Sun	Moist to Dry	Sand
<i>Rosa palustris</i>	Swamp Rose	Sun	Wet	Loam
<i>Salix amygdaloides</i>	Peach-leaved Willow	Full Sun	Wet to Moist	Variety
<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Beaked Willow	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Salix eriocephala</i>	Willow	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Salix exigua</i>	Sandbar Willow	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Salix lucida</i>	Shining Willow	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Common Elderberry	Part Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Sambucus racemosa ssp.pubens</i>	Red-berried Elder	Shade	Moist	All
<i>Spiraea alba</i>	Narrow-leaved Meadow-sweet	Sun	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	Highbush Cranberry	Part Sun	Moist	All

Vines & Woody Groundcovers				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Light Level	Soil Moisture	Soil Type
<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	Climbing Bittersweet	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgin's-bower	Part Sun	Moist	All
<i>Euonymus obovata</i>	Running Strawberry-bush	Shade	Moist	All
<i>Lonicera canadensis</i>	Fly Honeysuckle	Shade	Wet to Moist	All
<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridge-berry	Shade	Moist to Dry	Sand, Loam
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper	Part Sun	Wet to Dry	All
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	Riverbank Grape	Part Sun	Moist	All

LIGHT: Sun (shade intolerant), Part Sun (moderately shade tolerant), Shade (shade tolerant; understory species).

MOISTURE: Wet (swamp wetland), Moist (intermediate), Dry.

SOIL TYPE: Sand, Loam, Clay or All/Variety. Rich soils often occur in floodplains.

(C): Carolinian species, rarely found north of London.

Note: In the wild, trees and shrubs often grow in a specific situation such as woodland edges or dry, rocky outcrops because of competition with other species, but most species prefer or do very well on moist, rich soils.

Notes

- Some locally native species are not listed because they are hard to source (e.g., not grown in nurseries that sell native plants).
- Non-local trees and shrubs from commercial nurseries are often acceptable as single plantings in urban gardens, but not for naturalization or reforestation projects.
- Unknown plants and cultivated varieties should not be used in naturalization projects.
- Some invasive, non-native trees, shrubs, vines and woody groundcovers should not be planted in any site or garden.
- List compiled by Upper Thames River Conservation Authority staff, 2010.

Information Sources

Choosing the Right Shrub in London, Ontario and Choosing the Right Tree in London, Ontario. Brochures by the Sherwood Fox Arboretum and ReForest London. www.reforestlondon.ca
Shrubs of Ontario. Soper and Heimburger, 1985. Royal Ontario Museum.
Trees in Canada. John Laird Farrar, 1995. Fitzhenry & Whiteside Ltd. and the Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada.

Additional Information at www.thamesriver.on.ca

- Recommended Native Wildflowers & Grasses for Naturalization Projects in the Upper Thames River Watershed
- Tallgrass Prairie Plant Species Native to Middlesex, Oxford & Perth Counties
- Gardening with Native Plants
- Aggressive Non-Native Plants
- Regionally Rare Plants in Middlesex County



The following southwestern Ontario nurseries sell some or specialize in locally native trees and shrubs. List compiled by UTRCA staff, 2015.

Name & Address	Phone	Email & Website	Plant Types Carried	Retail / Wholesale
Baseline Nurseries 9084 Elviage Drive, London	519-657-1265	info@baselinenurseries.ca www.baselinenurseries.ca	Some native trees and shrubs	Retail + Wholesale
Eco-Logic Nursery 48811 Brook Line, Aylmer	519-765-3467	ecologic2001@gmail.com www.ecologicnursery.com	Several native trees	Retail + Wholesale
Heavenly Earth 29816 Zone Road 4, Bothwell	519-692-4714	sales@heavenlyearth.ca www.heavenlyearth.ca	Trees, shrubs	Retail
V. Kraus Nurseries Ltd. 1380 Centre Road, Carlisle	905-689-4022	sales@krausnurseries.com www.krausnurseries.com	Trees, shrubs	Wholesale
Little Otter Tree Farm 203924 Keswick Road, Tillsonburg	519-688-4771	litotter@execulink.com	Trees, shrubs	Retail + Wholesale
Nith River Native Plants 4265 Wilmot-Easthope Road, New Hamburg	519-831-0953	nithriverplants@hotmail.com www.nithriverplants.com	Herbaceous, seeds, trees, shrubs	Retail
Sassafras Farms 120 Canby Street, Port Robinson	905-658-8907	cdiraddo@sassafrasfarms.ca www.sassafrasfarms.ca	Herbaceous, trees, shrubs, seeds	Retail + Wholesale
Sloan's Tree Farm 30718 Zone Road #8, Bothwell	519-695-3525	travis@sloansnursery.com www.sloansnursery.com	Trees	Retail + Wholesale
St. Williams Nursery & Ecology Centre 885 Highway 24 West, St. Williams	519-586-9116 1-866-640-8733	sales@stwilliamsnursery.com www.stwilliamsnursery.com	Herbaceous, seeds, trees, shrubs	Wholesale
VanDenNest Nursery 8584 Somers Road, Eden	519-866-5269	www.vandennest-nursery.com	Trees, shrubs	Retail + Wholesale
Verbinnen's Nursery Ltd. 1504 Brock Road, Dundas (Hamilton)	905-659-7072	bernard@verbinnens.com www.verbinnens.com	Trees, shrubs Herbaceous	Wholesale
Windover Nurseries 3662 Petrolia Line, Petrolia	519-882-0120	windover@ebtech.net www.windovernurseries.com	Several native trees, shrubs, plants	Retail + Wholesale