

# Trees with Short Mature Heights

Connecticut Urban Forest Council ([www.cturbanforestcouncil.org](http://www.cturbanforestcouncil.org))

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Common name <sup>4</sup>	Scientific name <sup>4</sup>	Origin <sup>5</sup>	HT (ft) <sup>6</sup>	Root suckers <sup>6</sup>	Tall shrubs	Notes
Hedge maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Europe	30+	n		Tolerates urban conditions well
Paperbark maple	<i>Acer griseum</i>	China	30	n		Beautiful shiny copper-colored bark
Common serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Native	<30	n		Tree with white flowers in late April; edible fruit in July
Canadian serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Native	15	n	Yes	Shrub with white flowers in late April; edible fruit in July
Allegheny serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Native	<30	n		Tree with white flowers in late April; tasty fruit in July
American hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Native	30+	n		Small tree with smooth, gray bark
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Native	25	n		Purple-pink flowers and heart-shaped leaves
Fringe tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Native	20	Clumpy	Yes	Large shrub with large clusters of white flowers in June
Alternate-leaved dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Native	20	n	Yes	Large shrub with small clusters of creamy white flowers
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Native	30	n		Small tree with showy white flowers in mid-May
Kousa dogwood	<i>Cornus kousa</i>	NE Asia	30	n		Small tree with showy white flowers in late May
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i> species	Native	25	n		All have some level of susceptibility to rust and a few have some resistance to leaf spot, some have thorns
‘Hooks’	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	Native	25	n		White flowers, red fruit, some resistance
‘Crimson Cloud’	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	Europe	25	n		Lavender/red flowers, red fruit, some leaf spot resistance
‘Lavalle’	<i>Crataegus</i> X <i>lavallei</i>	Mixed	25	n		White flowers, orange/red fruit, some rust resistance
‘Washington Hawthorn’	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	Native	25	n		White flowers, orange/red fruit
‘Winter King’	<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	Native	25	n		White flowers, orange/red fruit
Carolina silverbell	<i>Halesia carolina</i>	Native	30+	n		White, bell like flowers in May, smooth bark
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Native	10	Clumpy	Yes	Shrub with abundant red berries
Eastern redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Native	30+	n		Small evergreen tree
Amur maackia	<i>Maackia amurensis</i>	NE Asia	30	n		Short tree with clusters of yellow flowers in July
Saucer magnolia	<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>	China	30	n		Short tree with large white or pink flowers early spring
Star magnolia	<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	Japan	20	n		Upright shrub with large white flowers
Crabapple	<i>Malus</i> species	Mixed	25	n		Small tree with showy flowers in spring and persistent fruit; flower color, fruit size, and growth habit vary with cultivar. Varieties rated to have excellent resistance to scab, fire blight, rust, and powdery mildew: ‘Adirondack’, ‘Beverly’, ‘Centennial’, ‘Dolgo’, ‘Firebird’, ‘Prairifire’, ‘Professor Sprenger’, ‘Sinai Fire’

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Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Native	30+	n		Medium size tree with rough bark
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Native	25	n		Small tree with showy white flowers in July
Cherry plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	NE Asia	25	n		White flowers in spring; purple leaved forms popular
Japanese flowering cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>	NE Asia	25	n		Pink early spring flowers; 'Kwanzan' a popular type
Higan cherry	<i>Prunus subhirtella</i>	Japan	30+	n		Pink spring flowers; weeping forms available
Bosc (common) pear	<i>Pyrus communis</i>	Europe	30	n		White spring flowers, fruit could be a problem
Winged sumac	<i>Rhus copallinum</i>	Native	15	Yes	Yes	Suckering shrub with brilliant red fall foliage
Smooth sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Native	15	Yes	Yes	Suckering shrub with brilliant red fall foliage
Pussy willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>	Native	30	n		Appreciated for its small, fuzzy early flowers
Japanese stewartia	<i>Stewartia peuedocamellia</i>	Japan	30	n		Large showy June flowers and colorful mottled bark
Japanese snowbell	<i>Styrax japonicus</i>	Japan	25	n		White bell shaped flowers in June
Japanese tree lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Japan	25	n		Creamy flower clusters in June, very adaptable
English yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Europe	30+	n		Small evergreen tree
Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Native	30+	n		Small evergreen tree
Withe-rod	<i>Viburnum nudum</i> var. <i>cassinoides</i>	Native	12	Clumpy	Yes	Flower clusters in June, multi-colored fruit in fall
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Native	15	n	Yes	Creamy white flower clusters in June
Blackhaw viburnum	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Native	12	n	Yes	Creamy white flower clusters in June

<sup>4</sup>Common and scientific names from USDA Plants database (<http://plants.usda.gov>)

<sup>5</sup>Native refers to eastern North America

<sup>6</sup>Height and suckering from personal observation and Durr (1998) Manual of woody landscape plants, 5th edition

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#### Sources for additional information on tree planting, care, and storm clean-up

[Tree owner's manual](#)

[USDA Forest Service Pruning Guide](#)

[CT Forest Council mulching tips](#)

[CAES tree fertilization guide](#)

[CT DEEP - responding to storm damage](#)

[Urban tree risk management - Great resource for identifying and correcting hazards](#)

[CAES pruning guidelines](#)

[Technical guide to urban forestry](#)