

## **TREE & SHRUB INFORMATION ISANTI CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

### **CARAGANA (SIBERIA PEA SHRUB-CARAGANA ARBORESCENS)**

Drought tolerant, long lived, 10-12 feet tall. Withstands extreme cold and dryness. A major windbreak species. An attractive yellow flower appears in May. These are followed by small pea-like pods. This shrub is useful in shelterbelts and windbreaks and is sometimes used for informal hedges. (FULL SUN-WELL DRAINED SOIL)

### **NANKING CHERRY (PRUNUS TOMENTOSA)**

This is a winter hardy, fast growing, attractive shrub. May reach a height of 6-10 feet. In most plantings, the useful life expectancy is 8-10 years. Pinkish-white flowers appear in May followed by dark red, edible fruit. The fruit is widely used for making jelly, jams and pie. The fruit is also relished by the songbirds. OK in sand. (BEST IN FULL SUN-WELL DRAINED SOIL-DROUGHT TOLERANT) Used for informal hedges.

### **COMMON LILAC (SYRINGA VULGARIS)**

Fast growing, reaching a height of 10-12 feet. Common lilac is not demanding of soil type. Requires full sun for best performance. Drought resistant. Large fragrant flowers in mid spring after leaves appear. Suckering shrub, frequently used for informal hedges and background screens. Long lived. (BEST IN FULL SUN-WELL DRAINED SOIL-DROUGHT TOLERANT)

### **BUFFALOBERRY (SHERDIA ARGENTEA)**

It is a thorny, thicket forming, winter hardy, somewhat drought tolerant, medium to tall, suckering shrub. Height 12-18 feet tall and Crown spread 12-18 feet. Flowers yellow in May followed by small round, juicy berries, bright red when ripe, edible (sour) can be used for making jelly. Ideal cover and nesting site for many birds. Good late winter food source for birds and wildlife. Prefers moist soils but will tolerate dry soils. (FULL SUN)

### **NINEBARK (PHYSOCARPUS OPULIFOLIUS)**

A hardy shrub with rounded clusters of white flowers in spring thru summer that form dense thickets that provide excellent wildlife cover. It is very drought tolerant and adaptable to a wide range of soils. Grows 4-8 feet tall and 4-8 feet wide. Grows in dry sandy soils as well as heavy clays. Red fruit persists through winter. Its flowers attract butterflies and other insects which, in turn, attract various songbirds.

### **RED-OSIER DOGWOOD (CORNUS SERICEA)**

A Moderate growing shrub with medium to dark green leaves that turn purplish to red in the fall. Height reaches 8-10 feet. Small white flowers appear in late May with small white berries in fall. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SHADE) Prefers wetter soils. Dark red bark over winter. Great for informal hedges.

### **FORSYTHIA**

A deciduous shrub that grows 8-10ft tall and 8-10ft wide. Exhibits a brilliant yellow flower in early Spring. A beautiful landscape shrub ideal for borders and screens. Forsythia performs best when placed in (FULL SUN). Tolerant of many soils types. Rapid grower. Prune after flowering.

**SAND CHERRY (PRUNUS BESSEYI)**

Winter hardy, drought-tolerant, fast-growing small native shrub. Reaches 3-6 feet. White flowers bloom mid-May. The fruit is 1cm in diameter and dark purplish to black. Fruit is edible, good for the wildlife and jams and jellies. The leaves are dark silvery-green. (FULL SUN)

**AMERICAN HAZELNUT (CORYLUS AMERICANA)**

Grows 6-12 feet tall, edible nuts enclosed in a hairy, leaf-like husk with ragged edges. Initially green, ripening to a brown in late summer. Also commonly known as the American filbert. Fall color ranges from purplish red, yellow and green to yellowish green. Moderate growth rate. Soils-sandy loam thru clay. Roots are suckering. (FULL SUN to PART-SHADE)

**HIGHBUSH CRANBERRY (VIBURNUM TRILOBUM)**

Large attractive shrub. 8-12 feet tall and wide. Showy spring flowers 4-5" clusters of small white flowers. In late summer the fruit turn bright red and remain on throughout the winter or until harvested by birds. Foliage turns a bright red in fall. Prefers rich soil with ample moisture. Edible fruit. (FULL SUN TO LIGHT SHADE) Fruit-jam and jelly

**ROSA RUGOSA:(HEDGE ROSE)**

Excellent hedge plant. Fragrant flowers (pink, white, purple) from June-August. Green leaves turn orange in fall. Tolerates less fertile soils. Provides red hips as wildlife food.

**AMERICAN PLUM (PRUNUS AMERICANA)**

Rapid grower, 10-15 feet tall, White flowers in early May are showy and fragrant. The 1" red fruits are used for jellies and jams. They provide food and excellent habitat for wildlife. Will grow in most soil types. SHADE INTOLERANT—winter hardy, sandy loam to clay loam—(FULL SUN)

**RED SPLENDOR CRAB-FLOWERING CRAB (MALUS RED-SPLENDON)**

Grows 10-25 feet tall. Somewhat vase-shaped when young. This tree spreads out with age. Flowers are light rose-red. Fruits 1/2" in diameter. Crabapples provide fair cover and high quality fruit for many birds and mammals. Prefers well-drained moist soil (FULL SUN-MODERATELY DROUGHT TOLERANT)

**APRICOT (PRUNUS ARMENIACA MANDSHARICA)**

Small fast growing tree. Rounded, spreading form, winter hardy and drought resistant. Attractive white flowers. Adapted to a wide range of soils but grows best on a well drained soil. 10-15 feet tall. 12-18 feet wide. The fruit is best suited for making jam and for the wildlife. (FULL SUN)

**MOUNTAIN ASH-EUROPEAN (SORBUS AUCUPARIA)**

Frequently planted for its showy clusters of white flowers in spring followed by an excellent display of fruit that develop in tight clusters 4-5" wide. Mature fruit color is usually bright orange. Height: 20-25 feet tall. Prefers well drained moist soils. Prefers richer soils. Excellent for birds and wildlife. (FULL SUN)

### **COMMON CHOKECHERRY (PRUNUS VIRGINIANA)**

A small suckering hardy tree or large shrub may reach a height of 12-25 feet. Prefers well-drained soil. Prefers moist soil but tolerates dry conditions. Adapts to a wide variety of soils. Flowers in spring, fruit is dark purple to black at maturity: edible, tart. Medium to fast grower. (SHADE TOLERANT BUT REQUIRES FULL SUN TO PRODUCE A GOOD FRUIT)

### **WHITE OAK (QUERCUS ALBA)**

White oak is a large, stately tree with a round to wide spreading crown. It is native from Minnesota. Loam and clay soil. No serious insect or disease problems. Resistance to oak wilt. Prefers deep loamy soils, will grow on a wide range of soil textures from clays to sandy loams. Grows 60-100 feet tall. Crown spread 50-90 feet. Maroon red to brownish red fall color. Acorns eaten by wildlife. Deep root system. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SHADE)

### **RED MAPLE (ACER RUBRUM)**

Red Maple is an excellent landscape tree. It has an oval to rounded crown, smooth gray bark as a young tree. The lobed leaves are a nice bright green and develop beautiful fall colors ranging from clear yellow to orange to vivid red. Red maple requires full sun for best effect. Prefers moist soils but tolerates a wide range of moisture conditions. Growth rate is moderate to rapid. Height 50-70 feet. (FULL SUN)

### **GOLDEN WILLOW (SALIX ALBA VAR.VITELINA)**

Large, graceful, fast growing tree. Leaves are narrow lance-shaped; finely toothed 4-6 inches long, drooping branches. Twigs are golden yellow to orange in color. Tolerates a wide range of soils. Grows 40-80 Feet. Does well in moist sites. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SHADE)

### **BLACK CHERRY (PRUNUS SEROTINA)**

Rapid growth rate at first slowing to moderate. Black cherry is a medium sized tree native throughout much of the upper Midwest. Foliage is dark green and quite glossy, turning yellow to red in the fall. Small white flowers in spring, fruit are small black cherries which can be used for jelly and wine making, also eaten by the birds. Prefers moist soils but will tolerate drier conditions. Grows 50-70 feet tall (FULL SUN)

### **AMERICAN LINDEN (TILIA AMERICANA)**

50-80 feet tall, has small clusters of fragrant cream-color flowers in late June. Fall color is yellow to brown. American Linden makes a good single-trunk tree as well as a clump tree. Long lived, fast growing tree. From its flowers, bees produce a high quality honey. Used as a shade, boulevard tree. Prefers moist soil. (FULL SUN-WILL TOLERATE SOME SHADE)

### **GREEN ASH (FRAXINUS PENNSYLVANICA)**

A very winter hardy, drought resistant, tall, long lived native tree which is adapted to a wide range of soils and climatic conditions. On the most favorable soils it may reach a height of 30-60 feet tall. It can be used for single row field windbreaks. It is extensively planted as a shade and ornamental tree. Moderate growth rate. Very drought tolerant and salt tolerant. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SHADE)

### **WHITE ASH (FRAXINUS AMERICANA)**

An excellent landscape tree, prefers rich-moist soil, grows rapidly 70-80 feet tall. Has an upright oval form, developing a rounded crown. Fall color develops early and ranges from yellow to red-purple. (FULL SUN)

### **SILVER MAPLE (ACER SACCHARINUM)**

A hardy, tall, long lived, fast growing, native tree which is adapted to soils with abundant moisture. It is best noted for its rapid growth and brilliant yellow autumn color. On the most favorable sites it may obtain a height of 60-90 feet. Prefers moist soils. Tolerates a wide range of soils. (FULL SUN)

### **HYBRID POPLAR (POPULUS HYBRIDS)**

One of the fastest growing trees in North America. It can be established on soils that are dry and sandy as well as sites that are subject to periodic flooding. Poplars should live a minimum of 35-50 years and grow 50 to 80 feet tall. (FULL SUN)

### **SUGAR MAPLE (ACER SACCHARUM)**

This a round-headed native tree found in rich, moist soil throughout the wooded portions of the state where broadleaf trees occur. This is one of the most handsome maples, with bright green leaves that turn yellow to orange or scarlet in the fall. It is widely planted for ornamental and street plantings. Sugar maples require a moist, rich, deep soil. Grows slowly at first and growing at a moderate rate after established. Grows to 60-80 feet tall. Prefers loams and clay loams. (FULL SUN OR PARTIAL SHADE, LONG LIVED)

### **BLACK WALNUT (JUGLANS NIGRA)**

70 TO 90 FEET TALL. It is a large tree with wide spreading branches. It has dark green, compound leaves and edible nuts. Should not be planted near vegetable gardens. The large, deep taproot; large, deep root system; roots secrete juglone, a substance that is toxic to conifers and most flowers and vegetables. Grows best on fertile, moist sites. Moderate to rapid growth rate. (SHADE INTOLERANT—FULL SUN)

### **HACKBERRY (CELTIS OCCIDENTALS)**

Rapid growing. This tree commonly grows 40-75 ft tall. The fruit, which is edible, is dark purple and about 1/3" in diameter and ripens in September but often remains on the tree over the winter. Excellent tree for wildlife. The tree adapts to dry difficult sites. Prefers a moist loam soil but tolerates both wet and dry sites. Tolerates drought and hot summer winds. Its adaptability makes it a popular choice for urban plantings. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SHADE)

### **PAPER BIRCH (BETULA PAPYRIFERA)**

Paper birch is noted for its thin, white papery bark which is very noticeable and attractive. Foliage develops a very nice yellow color in the fall. It requires a well drained soil, cool soil temperatures and ample moisture. The fruit is cylindrical, about 1 1/2" long. The tree attains heights of 40-80 feet. Shade intolerant. (FULL SUN)

### **PATMORE ASH (FRAXINUS PENNSYLVANICA)**

The Patmore ash makes a good selection in either an urban setting or to produce shade and great fall color. Fall color is a bright, attractive yellow. Patmore is tolerant of wet soils, but will also tolerate droughts. This tree is also adaptable to most soil conditions, be it clay, loam, sand. Grows 50-60 feet tall. 35 feet wide. Growth rate is rapid. (SEEDLESS)  
Extremely hardy. (FULL SUN)

### **AUTUMN BLAZE MAPLE (ACERACEAE)**

Autumn blaze maple is known for its superior fall color, unexcelled growth rates, tolerance and adaptability to an extremely wide range of climate and soil conditions. This spectacular tree has become one of the most sought after trees in the U.S. Autumn Blaze is a hybrid maple developed from crossing the silver maple with the red maple. The summer color is a rich, medium green with excellent scarlet, orange and red fall color. Grows 50-60 feet tall and 30-40 feet wide. Will tolerate clay soil, and will withstand wet soil conditions and drought. (FULL SUN) (SEEDLESS)

### **CRIMSON KING MAPLE**

The Crimson King Maples are known for their striking, rich purple/maroon foliage. The tree will give you long lasting color, from spring to fall. Mature height: 40-50 ft Tall  
Mature Width: 25-35 ft wide. Mature form: Oval - FULL TO PART SUN  
Crimson King will give you dense shade, blocking the hot sun from home and yard. Does best in well drained area and is very drought tolerant. Growth rate: moderate. Adaptable to wide variety of soils—alkaline, sand, clay and acid soils

### **LITTLE LEAF LINDEN (TILIA CORDATA)**

Little Leaf Linden is a popular medium sized landscape tree. It has smaller leaves and a more dense growth habit than the American Linden. Form is pyramidal to oval, becoming broader with age, an excellent shade tree. Leaves are dark green, turning yellow or yellow-green in the fall. The small, fragrant yellowish flowers appear in June. Little Leaf Linden is widely used as a street tree and for residential landscaping. 35-50 feet tall 20-30 feet wide. Grows well on deep, fertile, well drained loam and clay soils. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SHADE)

### **AUTUMN PURPLE ASH**

The autumn purple ash turns from a glossy green into red and finally to a brilliant purple in the fall. Thrive best in moist areas, but are tolerant to many climates. Oval shape at maturity. Zone 3. Mature height: 50-70ft. Mature width: 30-50ft. FULL TO PARTIAL SUN. Highly adaptable to various types of soil.

### **SPRING SNOW FLOWERING CRAB ('Spring Snow')**

A highly regarded ornamental tree just covered in snowy white flowers in spring, a hardy--FRUITLESS—variety with a tightly oval habit of growth; makes a beautiful accent in the front yard, very clean and tidy, needs well-drained soil and FULL SUN.

### **PRAIRIE FIRE CRABAPPLE**

The Prairie fire is not only magnificent in flower, fruit, foliage and form; it is also virtually disease free. Blooms in May in innumerable crimson buds opening to dark purplish-red flowers. Fruit ½” diameter, shiny, red to purple, a favorite of songbirds. Green foliage changes to an outstanding orange in the fall. 15-20 ft tall to 15-20 ft wide, FULL SUN  
Soil: Sandy, clay or loam.

### **HONEYCRISP APPLE**

Honeycrisp requires FULL SUN . Mature height: 15-20ft tall.

Honeycrisp was developed at the university of Minnesota and shows great hardiness for our area. Ripens in late September to October and adapts to a variety of soil types.

Honeycrisp will turn a solid red if exposed to the sun for a long period of time. The flesh is white, crisp and very sweet. The shelf life is very good if kept in a cool area. Zone 3

Use: Fresh eating, pie, sauce, freezing, baking and dehydrating.

Very juicy-introduced to U of M in 1991. It a cross of Macoun and Honeygold.

### **HARALSON APPLE**

Haralson requires FULL SUN. Mature height: 20-25ft tall.

Haralson apple is medium sized, tart, juicy apple for eating and cooking. The white, firm flesh is medium-tender, crisp and juicy. This apple ripens mid September to October with very good shelf life. A product of the University of Minnesota, Haralson was bred to withstand the severe cold for which Minnesota winters are famed and is a cross of Malinda and Ben Davis introduced in 1922.

Use: Fresh eating, sauce, freezing, the Best For Pie Making.

### **ZESTAR! APPLE**

Another University of Minnesota Apple—Introduced in 1998—Very early apple—ripens August 6-13. Balanced flavor, stores well. The U of M selected it for its outstanding fresh eating quality and storage ability for an early apple. The apple has a sweet-tart taste with a hint of brown sugar. Zestar! Is juicy with a light, crisp texture. Stores in refrigerator up to 2 ½ months. Very cold hardy.

### **MCINTOSH APPLE**

Sweet with a tart tang, very juicy, tender, flesh is white-juicy and aromatic. Excellent for eating and sauce. Fruit becomes ripe in late September. Keep well up to three or four weeks in refrigerator. A medium sized, nearly solid bright red.

### **FIRESIDE APPLE**

Another University of Minnesota Apple—Introduced in 1943.

Bright red and typically large in size. Smooth-textured, bright red outer skin covers a firm white flesh that is dense and fine textured, provides a mildly sweet flavor. Apple keeps longer refrigerated. A good apple to eat out of hand or to use for cooking. Dehydrates well as a dried fruit.

### **WHITE PINE (PINUS STROBUS)**

The largest conifer in Minnesota. Rapid growing native tree which does well on a wide variety of soils, but less common on clays. Needles are 5 per cluster, 3-5” long. An excellent tree for windbreaks. Prefers well drained, moist soil. Cones 4-8” long. Bark is gray to brown and smooth when young, breaking with age into large broad scales. Grows 70-100 ft tall. (THE MOST SHADE TOLERANT PINE)

### **NORWAY PINE (PINUS RESINOSA)**

Norway or Red Pine is the state tree of Minnesota. It is extremely cold hardy. Tolerates poor growing conditions such as dry, acid, sandy or rocky soil. Needles are medium green to yellow-green 5-6” long and groups of two. Grows 40-60 ft tall. (FULL SUN)  
(MODERATE TO RAPID GROWTH RATE)

**SCOTCH PINE (PINUS SYLVESTRIS)**

Prefers a sandy, well drained soil. Needles in groups of two range from 1 ½ to 3” long. Needles are bluish-green in color. A popular Christmas tree. Grows 30-80 Ft. tall. (FULL SUN)

**COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE (PICEA PUNGENS)**

An attractive, hardy, long-lived medium to tall tree which may reach heights of 50 to 100 feet. Prefers deep, moist, well drained soils, but will grow on other soils if moisture is available. Cones are 2-4” long. Needles are 1 to 1 ½ “long, all shades of blue and green. Very sharp tips. Provides excellent nesting, roosting and cover for wildlife. Slowest grower of the spruce. (MODERATELY SHADE TOLERANT)

**NORWAY SPRUCE (PICEA ABIES)**

Fastest growing of all spruce. It is hardy and grows on most sites except where soil is water soaked. Prefers medium to fine textured soils (clays and loams) Transplants well. Best in full sun, since foliage becomes sparse in shade. Grows 50-70 ft tall. The fastest growing and tallest spruce in Minnesota. Cones 4 to 7” long. Needles range ½ to 1” long, deep shiny green pointed tips, balsam odor when crushed. (MODERATELY SHADE TOLERANT)

**BLACK HILLS SPRUCE (PICEA GLAUCA VAR. DENSATA)**

Very hardy adaptable conifer. Needles are 1/3 to ¾ “long, blue-green. Cones 2 to 2 ½ “long. Used for hedges and windbreaks. Does best in moist, well drained soil but will tolerate a fairly wide range of soil conditions. Grows 30-60 ft tall. (FULL SUN TO PARTIAL SUN)

**BALSAM FIR (ABIES BALSAMEA)**

Moderate to rapid growth rate. Needles-flat about 1” long. Maturity age 100-200 years. Grows to 40-75 ft. tall. VERY SHADE TOLERANT-MOST TOLERANT CONIFER prefers a rich, well drained soil and requires ample moisture. Very hardy evergreen with symmetrical form and fragrant foliage. Prefers medium textures (loams, silt loams, and clay loams) but will also grow (slowly) on gravelly sands and in peat swamps. dried fruit.