

**Acer Rubrum “Morgan” Morgan Red Maple**



*Acer rubrum* (Red Maple, also known as Swamp or Soft Maple), is one of the most common and widespread deciduous trees of eastern North America. It ranges from the Lake of the Woods on the border between Ontario and Minnesota, east to Newfoundland, south to near Miami, Florida, and southwest to east Texas. Many of its features, especially its leaves, are quite variable in form. At maturity it often attains a height of around 25 metres (82 ft). It is aptly named as its flowers, petioles, twigs and seeds are all red to varying degrees. Among these features, however, it is best known for its brilliant deep scarlet foliage in autumn.

Over most of its range, red maple is adaptable to a very wide range of site conditions, perhaps more so than any other tree in eastern North America. It can be found growing in swamps, on poor dry soils, and most anywhere in between. Elevation is also not a limiting factor in its range, as it grows well from sea level to about 900 m (3,000 ft). Due to its attractive fall foliage and pleasing form, it is often used as a shade tree for landscapes. It is used commercially on a small scale for maple syrup production as well as for its medium to high quality lumber. It is also the State Tree of Rhode Island.

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**Acer saccharinum**

**Siler Maple**



*Acer saccharinum*, known as the silver maple (also occasionally the creek maple, river maple, silverleaf maple, soft maple, water maple, or white maple), is a species of maple native to eastern North America in the eastern United States and adjacent parts of southeast Canada.

The silver maple is a relatively fast-growing deciduous tree, commonly reaching a height of 20-30 m, exceptionally 35 m. It is often found along waterways and in wetlands, leading to the colloquial name "water maple". It is one of the most common trees in the United States. It is a highly adaptable tree, although it has higher sunlight requirements than other maples.

The leaves are palmate, 8-16 cm long and 6-12 cm broad, with deep angular notches between the five lobes. The 5-12 cm long, slender stalks of the leaves mean that even a light breeze can produce a striking effect as the silver undersides of the leaves are exposed. The autumn color is less pronounced than in many maples, generally ending up a pale yellow, although some specimens can produce a more brilliant yellow and even orange and red colorations. Some specimens can simply drop their leaves while still green as well.

The flowers are in small panicles, produced before the leaves in early spring, with the seeds maturing in early summer. The seeds are winged, in pairs, small (5-10 mm diameter), the wing about 3-5 cm long. Although the wings provide for some transport by air, the seeds are heavy and are also transported by water. On mature trunks, the bark is gray and shaggy. On branches and young trunks, the bark is smooth and silvery gray.

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### Amelanchier

### Serviceberry



#### Description:

Serviceberry can enhance any landscape with its delightful spring flush of white flowers. It can be grown as a centerpiece of your landscape. These trees are also well-adapted for planting under power lines due to their small size. Their natural form is multi-stemmed but can be trained as a single trunk tree. Trees perform best with plenty of open space for root expansion. Do not restrict root zone or plant in poor, compacted soils.

Common Name:	Serviceberry
Botanical Name:	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i> , <i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>
Type:	Deciduous Tree
Soil Preference:	These plants tolerate some drought and some salt. Will grow in dry soils but prefers well-drained, sandy or clay soils. The pH preference is acidic to slightly alkaline.
Light Requirements:	Full Sun, Partial Sun, Partial Shade
Attributes:	Attracts birds & butterflies
Pests:	Borer. Leaf miner will mine leaves, particularly the lower half of the leaf.
Diseases:	Fire Blight, Leaf Blight
Care:	Pruning is usually not necessary. Clear away all grass and plants from beneath the branches and mulch to the drip line to reduce competition with turf and weeds. Train and prune the trunks and branches so they will not touch each other. Flowers develop from buds formed the previous year so only prune after flowering. Fertilize with Holly-tone or Plant-tone approximately April 1st, May 20th, July 4th, August 15th & October 30th. Keep granular fertilizers off foliage and away from stems and trunks. Use 1/2 the recommended rate of fertilizer for new plantings.

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**Platanus x acerifolia**

**London Planetree**



### Habit and Form:

a large, deciduous tree  
maximum heights to 70 or 80' tall  
spread typically matches the height  
pyramidal in youth  
more widespreading with age  
shape is rounded  
branching is upright and spreading

### Summer Foliage

leaves are alternate and simple  
6" to 7" long and up to 10" wide  
3- to 5-lobed  
sparingly or coarsely toothed margins  
shape overall is "maple-like"  
leaf color is medium to dark green

### Autumn Foliage

turning yellow-brown

### Flowers

monoecious, with separate male and female flowers  
blooms in April  
not ornamentally important

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### Fruit

1" diameter fruits  
actually a multiple fruit of achenes  
borne in 2's and 3's  
change from green to brown in October  
persist in winter

### Bark

very ornamentally attractive  
exfoliates in plates, revealing creamy yellow inner bark

### Culture

easily transplanted  
best in deep, moist, fertile soil, but very adaptable  
full sun  
pollution tolerant

### Landscape Use

lawn tree  
street tree when large spaces are available  
good for difficult growing sites  
good urban tree  
for shade  
for decoration from showy bark

### Liabilities

can be pollarded and pleached readily  
canker strains is a serious problem  
anthracnose, although generally not as bad as on *P. occidentalis*  
anthracnose-resistant cultivars should be used  
cold injury in harsh winters  
powdery mildew  
American plum borer  
sycamore lacebug

### ID Features

buds conical, covered by a single scale  
leaf scars completely surround the buds  
petiole base covers buds during the growing season  
has creamy yellow inner bark  
fruit in clusters of 2 or 3's and pointed individual seeds, white  
*P. occidentalis* has white inner bark, fruit borne singly and blunt individual seeds

## Owen Sound Native Plant Species February 6, 2002

### **Quercus macrocarpa**

### **Burr Oak**

#### Form

large shade tree  
maturing at about 70' tall by 60' wide  
under urban conditions, but much taller  
and wider in its native habitat  
upright oval growth habit in youth,  
becoming rounded, spreading, and  
massive with age  
slow to medium growth rate

#### Culture

full sun to partial sun (partial shade  
tolerant in youth)  
performs best in full sun in moist or dry,  
neutral or alkaline pH soils, but is very urban tolerant (including tolerance to  
severe drought, pollution, high pH soils, poor soils, sandy soils, and compacted  
clay soils) and also adapts to acidic soils

propagated by seeds

Beech Family, with no serious diseases or pests

moderately available in ball and burlap form

member of the White Oak group; some of these members may hybridize freely in  
the wild, resulting in a blending of such traits as leaf shape and acorn caps

Burr Oak is very sensitive to being transplanted in Autumn, and care should be  
taken to amend the soil, fertilize, water thoroughly, mulch adequately, and avoid  
Winter salt spray, to enhance survival chances during the first Winter, if  
transplanting cannot be delayed until Spring

#### Foliage

dark green, alternate, strongly obovate, and deeply sinuate in the middle of the  
leaf blade, with about three pairs of lobes on the narrow lower one-third of the  
leaf and five to seven pairs of subtle lobes on the wide upper one-third of the leaf  
the large dark green leaf blade (about 10" long and 5" wide) is thick and leathery,  
having a lighter-colored underside that yields a more subtle bicolor in the breeze  
as compared to some other White Oak Group members, and is supported by a  
short yet stout petiole

overall leaf shape resembles a base fiddle or violin, but the detailed leaf structure  
(depth of sinuses and prominence/number of lobes) is quite variable, even on the  
same twig

fall color is yellow-brown to chartreuse and usually poor

#### Flowers

yellow-brown pendulous male catkins are obvious and prominent in late April, but  
are ornamentally insignificant, as are the very small pistillate flowers

#### Fruits



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a huge (1.5" long) oval acorn with a thick cap that is fringed at the lower end, covering almost the entire nut (hence the common names of Burr Oak or Mossycup Oak), borne singly on a stout short peduncle, and maturing in a single season

### Twigs

brown-gray, very stout and bold-textured, and often slightly corky after the first year

### Trunk

gray, very deeply furrowed and grooved with age, with vertical, flattened, narrow ridges (up to 4" thick on very old trees) that primarily run parallel to each other, forming a very distinctive appearance and contributing to the very bold texture of mature trees

### ID Summary

Burr Oak has several unique traits among large shade trees: fiddle-shaped foliage that is thick and large, bark on lower trunks that has thick, vertical flattened ridges with very deep furrows, large fringed acorns, and stout semi-corky twigs; in addition, the tree often stands alone in fields in the wild, displaying its bold texture of a massive trunk and huge spreading limbs from a distance, and being very drought tolerant due to its very deep taproot system

**Pyrus calleryana**

**Pear – Ornamental**

**Form**

medium-sized ornamental tree, which can double as a shade tree at maturity  
cultivars mature at about 45' tall by 20' wide, on average

upright pyramidal to upright columnar growth habit in youth, becoming upright oval, broad oval, or spreading with maturity (depending upon cultivar)

rapid growth rate, especially in youth

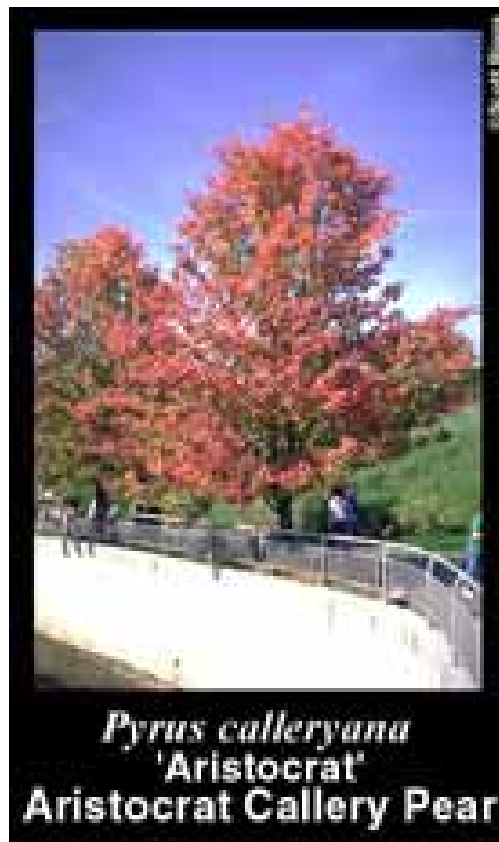
**Culture**

full sun to partial sun

performs best in full sun in moist, well-drained soils, but is very adaptable to poor soils, clay soils, soils of various pH, restricted root zones, pollution, drought, heat, and heavy pruning  
cultivars are propagated primarily by grafting onto rootstock, but other methods of propagation include seeds and rooted cuttings

Rose Family, with all modern cultivars resistant to fireblight in northern areas of its range, but many cultivars susceptible to fireblight in southern regions; no other serious disease or pest problems exist

abundantly available in ball and burlap or container form



Callery Pear is somewhat sensitive to being transplanted in Autumn, and care should be taken to amend the soil, fertilize, water thoroughly, mulch adequately, and avoid Winter salt spray, to enhance survival chances during the first Winter  
the major liability that this species has is its poor branching habit, which renders the tree a sitting duck for major branch shearing at times of high winds or heavy ice load

This liability is caused by the numerous weak crotch angles, due to the vertical co-dominant central leaders that repeat up and down the canopy, with narrow angles of separation between the vertical branches, having little strength at their points of attachment to each other  
selective thinning every one to two years, to continuously remove some of these vertical branches from the canopy, will allow strong winds to pass through the canopy (rather than hit it full force, often with a full complement of wet, heavy foliage) and also slowly strengthen the remaining branches, reducing the chances of storm damage

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### Foliage

medium-green to dark green, very glossy, alternate, ovate to broad-ovate to orbicular, with a cordate to truncate base, acuminate tip, and finely serrated margins

foliage flutters in the breeze due to the leaf base and the 2" long petiole often holds its green Summer color well into November or December, with fall color being quite variable with the cultivar and given year, being green, purple, orange, yellow, red, or often a mixture of the above colors

### Flowers

white 3" wide showy inflorescences, in mid- to late April from the spur shoots, effective for one week as they emerge before or with the foliage

### Fruits

green-brown to chartreuse with subtle small dots, inconspicuous due to the faded color and being hidden by the dense foliage on the spur shoots

### Twigs

reddish-brown to gray and stout, with relatively large, fuzzy, light tan-gray terminal buds on the spur shoots and branch tips

### Trunk

gray and fissuring with age, and often showing the swollen graft union at the base of the trunk

### ID Summary

stout, ascending, rapidly-growing co-dominant leaders with stubby spur shoots characterize this ornamental tree species, which is covered in showy white inflorescences in early to mid-Spring, quickly replaced by glossy green ovate foliage that flutters in the Summer breezes, holding the green color very late into Autumn and finally coloring with solid or mixed warm colors

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**Syringa reticula**

**Japanese Tree Lilac**



This lilac, possibly not so well known to northeastern gardeners, may be one of the most versatile. Japanese Tree Lilac, as the common name implies, is a lilac of medium proportions which opens up all kinds of possibilities in the landscape. As an added bonus, this award winner holds its floral display after most of the other shrub-type lilacs have faded. The creamy white flowers don't have the same sweet fragrance of the traditional common varieties, but the later bloom time provides a nice way to extend the flowering season.

Japanese Tree Lilac is adaptable to a wide range of soils and exposures. It can be used as a patio tree, lawn specimen (especially if allowed to branch to the ground) or even as a small street tree. Cold-hardy, this is a tree that can add a refreshing dimension to the home or public landscape.

Leaves Opposite, simple, entire, broad-ovate, 2 to five 5 long, and 2 inches wide. Dark green color in summer; some cultivars have distinguishing fall color. Stem Stout, shiny reddish brown, resembles cherry bark.

Size Will grow to 30 to 40 feet in height, 12 to 25 feet in spread.

Habit Classified as a large shrub, or small tree, with stiff spreading branches forming an oval crown with age. With pruning, an attractive umbrella shape can be achieved. Grows 12 to 18 inches per year.

Flowers In early to late July, or July in northern climates, creamy white flowers appear for 2 to 3 weeks. Only slightly fragrant, the flowers are 6 to 12 inches long and roughly 6 inches wide.

Culture Similar to species lilac, the tree lilac prefers full sun, moist neutral soil that is well drained. It will endure severe pruning once established. If necessary,

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maintenance pruning is best done immediately after flowering. This plant doesn't appreciate the hot summer sun.

Insects and Diseases Resistant to powdery mildew, scales and borer, this may be the most trouble-free lilac available. It may suffer from common lilac maladies, including bacterial blight, Phytophthora blight, leaf blights and, occasionally, injury from late spring frosts.