



Village of East Aurora

Trees We Love!

The Village of East Aurora Tree Board is committed to growing a healthy, resilient, and ecologically rich community forest. To that end, we've created a list of tree species we strongly recommend for planting in public spaces and new developments. These trees are primarily native or well-adapted species chosen for their ability to support local wildlife, withstand changing climate conditions, and thrive in village and urban environments with reasonable long-term care.

While homeowners are free to select any trees to plant on private property, the village prioritizes native species in public projects and encourages their inclusion in site plans and landscape designs. Thoughtful tree selection plays a critical role in expanding our urban canopy, reducing heat and stormwater impacts, and maintaining biodiversity. By promoting the right trees in the right places, we aim to educate, lead by example, and ensure that East Aurora's community forest remains strong and sustainable for generations to come.

Note: You may notice there are no maple trees on this list. Unfortunately, maple trees of all sorts are vastly over-represented in our yards and on our streets. It's critical to avoid having too many of any single species in order to avoid mass die-off from insects or disease (such as what happened to American chestnut, elm, and now ash trees).

Last Updated: February 2026

Canopy Trees for Streets

These trees are known for living in rough conditions, but need lots of room - don't plant these under or within 15 feet of power lines to avoid future trouble!

- Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)
- Chinkapin Oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)
- Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- Black Oak (*Quercus velotina*)
- Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)
- Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*)
- Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)
- Hybrid Elm (*Ulmus americana* cultivars)
- Honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos* var. *inermis*)
- London Planetree (*Platanus* × *acerifolia*)

Park & Open Space Canopy Trees

The previous list can certainly be planted in parks and open back yards, and these trees can certainly go in front yards, just a little further from big salty snow piles!

- Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
- Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*)
- Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*)
- Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*)
- American Basswood (*Tilia americana*)
- Black Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
- Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)
- Shellbark Hickory (*Carya laciniosa*)
- American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)
- Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

Understory Trees for Streets

These trees of smaller stature can take the road salt and live happily under power lines.

- Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- American Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
- American Hophornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)
- Allegheny Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*)
- Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn (*Crataegus crus-galli*)
- Disease-Resistant Crabapple (*Malus cultivars*)
- Yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*)

Accent & Understory Trees for Yards and Parks

We've successfully planted many of these along the streets, but they're probably happier a little farther from the street.

- Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp.)
- Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)
- Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)
- Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*)
- Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)
- Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*)
- American Bladdernut (*Staphylea trifolia*)
- American Plum (*Prunus americana*)
- Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)