



# Black Locust for Zoos & Natural Playgrounds

SAFE. DURABLE.  
NATURALLY BUILT FOR INTERACTION.

**GROUND CONTACT DURABILITY**

50<sup>+</sup>

Years of inherent rot resistance — no preservative required

**CHEMICAL TREATMENT**

None

Naturally non-toxic. Safe for prolonged contact by animals and children

**IDEAL APPLICATIONS**

- Animal enclosures & barriers
- Zoo structures & habitat features
- Nature-based playgrounds
- Climbing & balance elements
- Decking & accessible surfaces
- Palisades & ground-contact posts

**MATERIAL PROPERTIES**

**JANKA HARDNESS**

1,700 lbf

Exceeds white oak — resists impact and wear

**DECAY RESISTANCE**

AWPA Class 1

Highest natural durability rating

**FIRE RATING**

Class A

Flame spread index — naturally compliant

**SURFACE CHARACTER**

Weathers to Patina

Silver-gray tone — no finish required

**SOURCE**

Domestic Hardwood

Eastern U.S. — responsibly harvested

*One of North America's most durable native hardwoods — rot resistant, non-toxic, and built to withstand constant contact from animals, children, and the elements alike.*

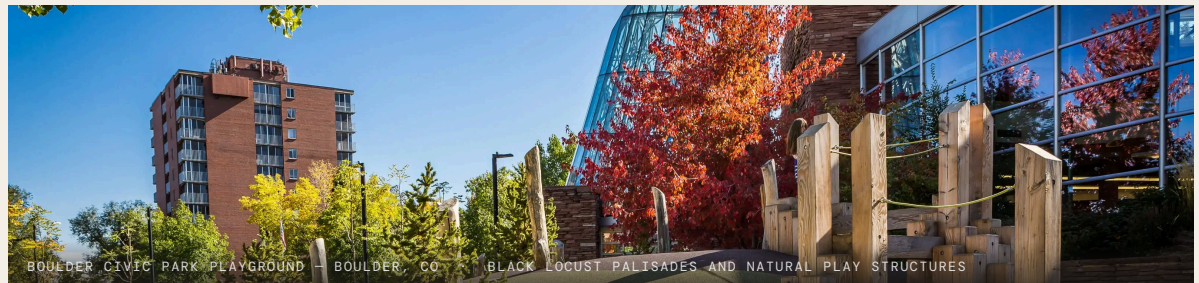
**THE RIGHT WOOD FOR ANIMAL ENCLOSURES**

Zoo environments demand materials that withstand constant gnawing, clawing, and moisture exposure — without leaching chemicals that harm animals. Black Locust contains no preservatives, no CCA, no ACQ. Its natural oils make it inherently hostile to rot and insects. Veterinary teams can specify it with confidence: what animals touch, chew, or rest against is exactly what it appears to be — wood, and nothing else.

**PALISADES & NATURAL FORM**

Solid locust rounds, sanded and peeled for a smooth tactile surface. Available with retained branch features for organic design character — configurable as enclosure walls, climbing elements, balance features, or perimeter barriers without supplemental treatment. Natural grain and form integrate into biophilic landscapes far more convincingly than milled or composite alternatives.

**PROVEN IN THE FIELD**



**BOULDER CIVIC PARK**  
BOULDER, CO · NATURE PLAYGROUND  
Custom palisades and structural timbers integrated into a nature-play environment. Sanded locust rounds used for climbing towers and perimeter definition.

**HARVARD CHILD CARE CENTER**  
CAMBRIDGE, MA · EARLY CHILDHOOD  
Natural branch-based play elements selected for tactile quality and exploratory play. Non-toxic material specification required by institutional standards.

**WEST PARK PLAYGROUND**  
INDIANA · MUNICIPAL PLAYGROUND  
Painted Black Locust palisades combining long-term structural durability with vibrant, child-scaled design. Ground-contact installation without treatment.

**CAMEL PARK**  
INDIANA · NATURE PLAYGROUND  
Ground-contact palisade installation providing structural support and natural visual definition throughout the play landscape.

**WASHINGTON PARK PLAYGROUND**  
DENVER, CO · URBAN PARK  
Peeled Black Locust log structures and play features emphasizing natural form. Designed for longevity in a high-use urban park environment.

**SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL ZOO**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. · ZOO HABITAT  
Hardwood applications within animal environments requiring verified non-toxic material. Selected for compatibility with sensitive species and keeper protocols.

**OTTER ENCLOSURE**  
ORLANDO, FL · AQUATIC HABITAT  
Custom palisade system engineered for continuous moisture exposure and high animal interaction. No sealant or preservative applied.

*Build environments meant to be touched, climbed, and experienced — naturally. Black Locust brings performance, safety, and design integrity to the next generation of outdoor spaces.*

JANKA HARDNESS 1,700	FIRE RATING Class A	GROUND CONTACT LIFE 50+ yr	DECAY RESISTANCE Class 1
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