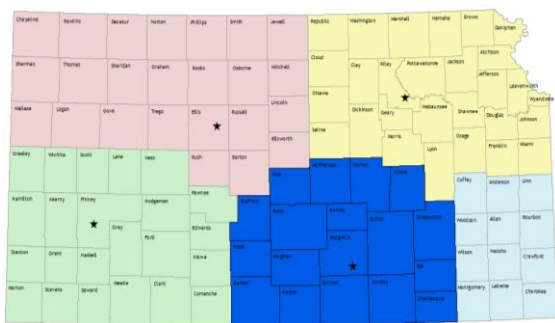


# Preferred Trees for South Central Kansas



Growing trees successfully depends on the selection of the right trees for the intended site. It is important to match the growing conditions and space available on the site with the cultural requirements and projected size of each tree to be planted. The following four charts show the tolerances of individual trees to various environmental conditions as well as the major landscape attributes of each tree. Not all recommended trees for South Central Kansas are included. The preferred trees listed were recommended by industry professionals such as city foresters, local tree boards, county and horticulture extension agents, commercial arborists and retail/production nursery interests. For a more extensive list see *Shade & Ornamental Trees for Kansas MF-2688*

## KEY TO USING THIS INFORMATION:

**TREE SPECIES AND CULTIVARS:** The names of the trees are listed in the center of four different charts. Three of the charts list deciduous trees grouped by average mature height. The fourth chart lists evergreen trees. Cultivars are listed if they possess improved plant characteristics like better fall color; a unique form; more attractive flowers, fruit; greater heat tolerance; or increased pest resistance.

**ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES:** The left side of each chart indicates the recommended environmental conditions of each tree; including full sun (**S**), light shade (**L**), soil pH adaptability, and soil moisture tolerances (**Dry** or **Wet**). Each chart also shows how resistant each tree is to insect and disease pests. A "**G**" (for good) under the appropriate column indicates the tree is strongly tolerant of the characteristic indicated. An "**F**" (for fair) signifies that the tree shows some tolerance. A blank space in a column indicates the tree is not tolerant and should not be subjected to that environmental condition. Specific information on the "pH adaptable", "soil moisture", and "pests" categories follows:

**pH ADAPTABLE:** (**G**) = tree may tolerate soils with a pH up to 8.0 or more; (**F**) = tree generally will tolerate an alkaline soil up to a pH of 7.5; (blank) = tree may not tolerate alkaline soils; do not plant in alkaline soils to avoid the problem of iron or manganese chlorosis.

**SOIL MOISTURE:** while most trees prefer a moist and well-drained soil, some of these species will tolerate moderate drought (**D**) or occasional wet (**W**) periods. Some trees will tolerate both to some extent and they are indicated with **DW**. See *Drought-Tolerant Tree for South-Central Kansas (MF-3246)* for a list of drought tolerant trees.

**PESTS:** (**G**) = tree is usually free of insect and disease problems; (**F**) = tree encounters insect or disease pests on an infrequent basis and often is not permanently damaged; (blank) = tree may suffer from pests which may permanently damage or kill the tree and/or the tree may exhibit minor insect and disease problems on a frequent basis which may affect the aesthetics of the tree or insects may commonly be a nuisance.

**LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES:** The right side of each chart includes average mature height and spread of each tree, which can be variable depending on growing conditions and other factors. Landscape attributes of flowers, fruit, and fall color are also listed.

**FLOWERS:** (**G**) = the flowers are showy; (**F**) = the flowers are not particularly showy, but may possess other desirable characteristics such as fragrance; (blank) = the flowers are generally considered insignificant.

**FRUIT:** (**G**) = fruits are generally aesthetically pleasing; (**F**) = fruits are not considered showy, but may provide other interest or benefits such as attracting wildlife; (blank) = no showy or useful fruit.

**FALL COLOR:** (**G**) = the autumn leaf color is typically quite good; (**F**) = the fall color may provide interest in some years; (blank) = autumn foliage color is generally not considered an asset of this particular tree.

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ENVIRONMENT				SMALL DECIDUOUS TREES (usually under 20 feet at maturity)	LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES				
SUN / LIGHT SHADE	pH ADAPTABLE	SOIL MOISTURE	PEST RESISTANCE		HEIGHT	SPREAD	FLOWERS	FRUIT	FALL COLOR
SL	F	DW	F	<b>Amur Maple</b> ( <i>Acer tataricum</i> subsp. <i>ginnala</i> ) Cultivars: 'Compactum'; 'Flame'. Seeds readily.	15-20	15-25	F		G
SL	G	D	F	<b>Tatarian Maple</b> ( <i>Acer tataricum</i> ) Cultivar; Hot Wings has attractive red fruit.	20-25	15-25	F	F	F
SL	G	D	F	<b>Eastern Redbud</b> ( <i>Cercis canadensis</i> ) var. <i>alba</i> (white flowers); Cultivars: 'Forest Pansy' and 'Merlot' have red/purple new growth.	20-25	20-25	G		F
SL	G	D	G	<b>Oklahoma Redbud</b> ( <i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. <i>texensis</i> 'Oklahoma') Glossy green leaves, more intense flower color, insect resistance	15-20	15-20	G		F
SL	G	DW	G	<b>Chinese Fringetree</b> ( <i>Chionanthus retusus</i> ) Cultivar 'Tokyo Tower'	15-20	15-20	G		F
SL	G	D		<b>Winterberry Euonymus</b> ( <i>Euonymus bungeanus</i> ). Seeds readily.	15-20	10		G	F
S	F	D	F	<b>Flowering Crabapple</b> ( <i>Malus</i> spp.) For disease resistant cultivars see Crabapple publication MF-875.	varies	varies	G	G	F
SL	G	D	G	<b>Smoketree</b> ( <i>Cotinus</i> spp.) American Smoketree ( <i>C. obovatus</i> ) and Red Smoketree varieties ( <i>C. coggygria</i> ). Hybrid 'Grace' has vigorous purple growth.	20	15	F		G

ENVIRONMENT				MEDIUM DECIDUOUS TREES (usually 20 to 40 feet at maturity)	LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES				
SUN / LIGHT SHADE	pH ADAPTABLE	SOIL MOISTURE	PEST RESISTANCE		HEIGHT	SPREAD	FLOWERS	FRUIT	FALL COLOR
SL	F	D	G	<b>Trident Maple</b> ( <i>Acer buergerianum</i> ) Some trees could suffer winter damage north of Newton.	20-35	20-30			G
SL	G	D	G	<b>Hedge Maple</b> ( <i>Acer campestre</i> )	25-35	25-35			G
SL	F	D	G	<b>Shantung Maple</b> ( <i>Acer truncatum</i> ) Hybrids also available: Norwegian Sunset; Pacific Sunset (hybrids with Norway Maple). Range of fall color, yellow-red.	25-30	25-30			G
SL	F	DW	G	<b>European Hornbeam</b> ( <i>Carpinus betulus</i> ) Cultivars 'Fastigiata' and 'Frans Fontaine' are columnar cultivars.	30-40	20-30			F
S	G	D		<b>Goldenrain Tree</b> ( <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> ) Host to boxelder bugs. Seeds readily.	30-40	30-40	G	G	F
S	G	DW	G	<b>Osage Orange</b> ( <i>Maclura pomifera</i> ) Cultivars: 'Wichita' and 'Whiteshield'. Use fruitless and thornless cultivars only.	30-40	20-40			G
S	F	D		<b>Flowering Crabapple</b> ( <i>Malus</i> spp.) For disease resistant cultivars see Crabapple publication MF-875.	varies	varies	G	G	F
S	G	D	G	<b>Chinese Pistache</b> ( <i>Pistacia chinensis</i> ) <b>Do not plant north of Harvey County.</b> Use cold-hardy seed source if possible. Seeds readily. Cultivar 'Keith Davey' is seedless and has red fall color.	30-35	30-40		F	G
S	G	D	G	<b>Chinkapin Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> )	35-40	40-45		F	F
SL	F	D	F	<b>Japanese Tree Lilac</b> ( <i>Syringa reticulata</i> ) Cultivar: 'Ivory Silk'	25	20	F		

ENVIRONMENT				LARGE & VERY LARGE DECIDUOUS TREES (usually 40 feet and larger at maturity)	LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES				
SUN / LIGHT SHADE	pH ADAPTABLE	SOIL MOISTURE	PEST RESISTANCE		HEIGHT	SPREAD	FLOWERS	FRUIT	FALL COLOR
SL	F	DW		<b>Freeman Maple</b> ( <i>Acer x freemanii</i> ) Cultivars: Autumn Blaze; Autumn Fantasy. The cultivars are prone to bark sunscald/frost cracking due to exposure and frequent winter temperature fluctuations.	50-60	40-50			G
SL		W		<b>Red Maple</b> ( <i>Acer rubrum</i> ) Cultivars: 'Autumn Flame'; 'October Glory'; Red Sunset; Burgundy Belle. The species and cultivars are prone to bark sunscald/frost cracking due to exposure and frequent winter temperature fluctuations.	40-60	35-50	F		G
SL	F	D	F	<b>Sugar Maple</b> ( <i>Acer saccharum</i> ) Caddo (seedling). Cultivars: 'Legacy'; 'John Pair'; 'Autumn Splendor'; All are more heat tolerant and leaf tatter resistant cultivars.	40-60	30-50			G
S		W	F	<b>River Birch</b> ( <i>Betula nigra</i> ). Cultivar Heritage has larger leaves, better salmon-white bark.	40-60	40-50			F
SL	G	DW		<b>Common Hackberry</b> ( <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> ) Cultivar Prairie Sentinel is columnar.	40-60	40-50		F	F
S	G	D	G	<b>Ginkgo</b> ( <i>Ginkgo biloba</i> ) Cultivars: 'Autumn Gold'; 'Princeton Sentry' (narrow pyramidal form). Slow-growing. Use named MALE cultivars only.	50-60	25-40			G
S	G	DW		<b>Thornless Honeylocust</b> ( <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i> ). Cultivars Skyline; 'Shademaster'; Honeylocusts are susceptible to many pests.	40-60	30-50			F
SL	G	DW	G	<b>Kentucky Coffee Tree</b> ( <i>Gymnocladus dioica</i> ) Seedless is available.	50-60	30-45		F	F
S		W	F	<b>Sweetgum</b> ( <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> ) Fruit can be a nuisance.	50-75	35-50		F	G
SL	G	DW	G	<b>London Planetree</b> ( <i>Platanus x acerifolia</i> ) Cultivar 'Bloodgood' has resistance to anthracnose. Exclamation has disease resistance and strong central leader.	60-80	50-65		F	
S	F	DW	G	<b>Sawtooth Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus acutissima</i> )	40-50	30-45		F	F
S	F	DW	G	<b>White Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus alba</i> )	50-60	40-60		F	F
S	F	DW	F	<b>Swamp White Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus bicolor</i> )	50-60	40-60		F	F
S	G	D	G	<b>Texas Red Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus buckleyi</i> )	50-60	40-60		F	G
S	F	DW	F	<b>Shingle Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus imbricaria</i> )	50-60	40-60			F
S	G	DW	G	<b>Bur Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> ) Large fruit can be a nuisance.	60-80	50-70		F	
S	G	D	F	<b>English Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus robur</i> ) Many columnar cultivars available: Crimson Spire; 'Fastigiata'; Kindred Spirit; Regal Prince	40-60	45-65		F	
S	F	D	F	<b>Red Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus rubra</i> )	60-75	40-60		F	G
S	G	DW	F	<b>Shumard Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus shumardii</i> )	60-80	40-60		F	G
SL		DW	F	<b>Willow Oak</b> ( <i>Quercus phellos</i> )	50-60				
S		DW	G	<b>Baldcypress</b> ( <i>Taxodium distichum</i> ) Cultivar 'Frio River' has excellent pH tolerance. 'Shawnee Brave' has upright pyramidal growth. Knees can be a problem in the landscape.	50-70	20-50		F	G
SL	F	W	F	<b>American Linden</b> ( <i>Tilia americana</i> ) Cultivar 'Redmond' pyramidal form. Lindens are favored by honey bees.	50-60	35-40	F		F
SL	G	W	F	<b>Littleleaf Linden</b> ( <i>Tilia cordata</i> ) More rounded. Cultivar: 'Greenspire' (pyramidal). Lindens are favored by honey bees.	35-45	25-40	F		F
S	G	DW	G	<b>Silver Linden</b> ( <i>Tilia tomentosa</i> ) 'Sterling' is an improved cultivar. Lindens are favored by honey bees.	40-45	25-35	F		
S	G	DW	F	<b>American Elm</b> ( <i>Ulmus americana</i> ) Cultivars: 'Jefferson'; 'New Harmony'; Prairie Expedition; 'Princeton'. Choose disease resistant cultivars.	60-80	40-60			F
S	G	DW	G	<b>Elm hybrids</b> ( <i>Ulmus</i> ) Accolade; Danada Charm; 'New Horizon'; 'Patriot'; 'Prospector'. Bred for attractive foliage and disease resistance.	>45	>40			F
SL	G	DW	F	<b>Lacebark Elm</b> ( <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> ). Also available: cultivars Athena; Allee; 'Emerald Prairie'; many others.	40-60	35-50			F
SL	F	D	F	<b>Japanese Zelkova</b> ( <i>Zelkova serrata</i> ) Cultivars 'Green Vase', 'Halka', and 'Village Green' have improved growth habit. 'Musashino' is columnar.	40-45	25-30			G

ENVIRONMENT				EVERGREEN TREES	LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES				
SUN / LIGHT SHADE	pH ADAPTABLE	SOIL MOISTURE	PEST RESISTANCE		HEIGHT	SPREAD	FLOWERS	FRUIT	FALL COLOR
S	G	D	G	<b>Incense Cedar</b> ( <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i> )	30-40	20-30			
S	G	D	F	<b>Arizona Cypress</b> ( <i>Cupressus arizonica</i> ) Cultivars 'Blue Ice'; 'Blue Pyramid'; and 'Cooke Peak'	20-30	15-20			
S	G	D		<b>Upright Chinese Juniper</b> ( <i>Juniperus chinensis</i> ). Very rust resistant. Cultivars: 'Keteleeri'; 'Robusta Green'; 'Wintergreen'; other disease resistant cultivars are available.	varies	varies		G	
S	G	D		<b>Eastern Red Cedar</b> ( <i>Juniperus virginiana</i> ) Also available: cultivar 'Canaertii' (irregular form); 'Taylor' (upright growth) many others also. Seeds readily.	30-40	25		G	
SL	G	DW	G	<b>Southern Magnolia</b> ( <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> ) Cultivars 'Bracken's Brown Beauty' and 'Edith Bogue' are the most cold hardy.	30-40	30-40	G	G	
S				<b>Black Hills Spruce</b> ( <i>Picea glauca</i> var. <i>densata</i> )	30-40	15-20		F	
S	G	D		<b>Pinyon Pine</b> ( <i>Pinus edulis</i> ) Slower growing.	10-20	10-15		F	
S	F	D	F	<b>Vanderwolf's Pyramid Limber Pine</b> ( <i>Pinus flexilis</i> 'Vanderwolf's Pyramid') Vigorous upright selection of Limber Pine.	30-40	15-30		F	
S	F	D		<b>Austrian Pine</b> ( <i>Pinus nigra</i> ) Limited use - subject to tip and needle blights as well as pine wilt disease.	40-60	25-40		F	
S	F	D	F	<b>Southwestern White Pine</b> ( <i>Pinus strobiformis</i> )	40-60	25-40		F	
SL	G	DW	G	<b>Oriental Arborvitae</b> ( <i>Platyclusus orientalis</i> or <i>Thuja orientalis</i> ) Many ornamental cultivars available.	20-30	20-25			

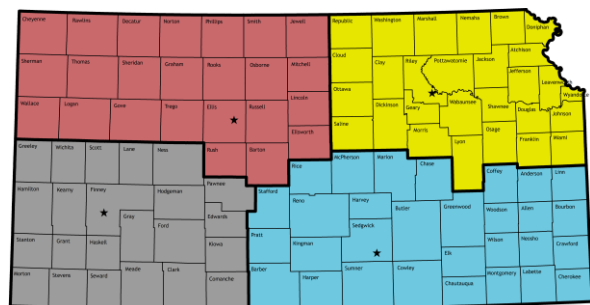
This publication is coordinated and updated by the Kansas Forest Service. For further information and assistance, or to provide feedback and recommendations to the preferred tree listing please contact:

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Preferred tree lists are available for other areas of the state. Visit us on the web for more information at:  
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