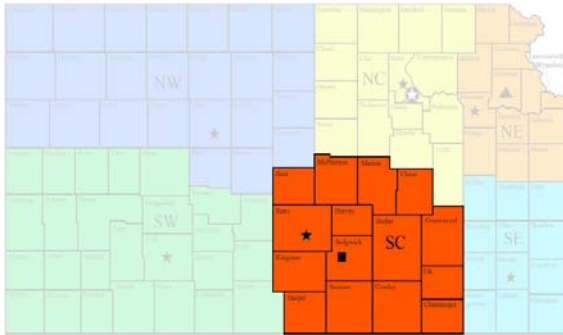


Preferred Trees for South Central Kansas



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 planting in 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.

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 according to average mature height [a plus (+) indicates they may grow slightly larger.] The fourth chart lists evergreen trees. If improved cultivars of the trees are available and recommended, they are listed. Cultivars often possess improved plant characteristics like better fall color; a unique form; more attractive flowers, fruit or bark; greater heat tolerance; or increased pest resistance. Many trees are available in single and multi-stemmed form. Multi-stemmed forms are more likely to be damaged from snow, ice, or wind.

ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES: The left side of each chart indicates whether the tree is tolerant to various environmental conditions including full sun, light shade, alkaline soil, drought or wet soil. 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. A "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 "alkaline soil" and "pests" categories follows:

ALKALINE SOIL: (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.

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. The size is sometimes highly variable due to the size and shape of different cultivars planted and variability among growing sites. The landscape attributes of flowers, fruit, autumn color and ornamental bark are also listed.

DESIRABLE FLOWERS: (G) = the flowers are showy, adding unique ornamental interest to the landscape; (F) = the flowers are not particularly showy, but may possess other desirable characteristics such as fragrance; (blank) = the flowers are generally considered insignificant.

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

AUTUMN FOLIAGE COLOR: (G) = the autumn leaf color is typically quite good (may vary with individual trees, cultivars and environmental conditions, however); (F) = the fall color may provide interest in some years; (blank) = autumn foliage color is generally not considered an asset of this particular tree.

ORNAMENTAL BARK: (G) = the bark or twigs are considered to be exceptionally ornamental; (F) = the bark or twigs (on at least some cultivars) lend interest to the landscape (good color, texture, etc.); (blank) = the bark or twigs are not generally considered to be ornamental.

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ENVIRONMENT (tolerant of)						LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES						
FULL SUN	LIGHT SHADE	ALKALINE SOIL (HIGH pH)	DROUGHT	WET SOIL	PESTS (RESISTANT TO)		MATURE HEIGHT	MATURE SPREAD	DESIRABLE FLOWERS	SHOWY OR USEFUL FRUIT	AUTUMN FOLIAGE COLOR	ORNAMENTAL BARK
SMALL DECIDUOUS TREES (usually under 20 feet at maturity)												
<i>Trees with mature height 20 feet or less can be used within 15 feet on either side of utility lines.</i>												
G	F	F	G	F	F	Amur Maple (<i>Acer ginnala</i>) Cultivars: 'Compactum' (reduced size); 'Flame'	15-20	15-25	F	F	G	
G	F	G	G		F	Tatarian Maple (<i>Acer tataricum</i>).	20-25	15-25		F	F	
F	G	G	F		F	Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) Cultivars: also available: var. alba (white flowers)	20-25+	20-25+	G		F	F
G	F	G	F		F	Oklahoma Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i> subsp. <i>texensis</i> 'Oklahoma') (glossy green leaves, more intense flower color, insect resistance)	15-20+	15-20+	G		F	F
G	F	G	G			Winterberry Euonymus (<i>Euonymus bungeanus</i>)	15-20+	10		G	F	
G		F	F		F	Flowering Crabapple (<i>Malus spp.</i>) For disease resistant cultivars see Crabapple publication.	varies	varies	G	G		F
F			F		F	Smoketree (<i>Cotinus spp.</i>) American Smoketree (<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>) and Red Smoketree varieties (<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>)	15	10	F		F	
F			F		F	Canada Red Chokecherry , (<i>Prunus virginiana</i> 'Canada Red'.) Has tendency to sucker.	25	25	F			

ENVIRONMENT (tolerant of)						LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES						
FULL SUN	LIGHT SHADE	ALKALINE SOIL (HIGH pH)	DROUGHT	WET SOIL	PESTS (RESISTANT TO)		MATURE HEIGHT	MATURE SPREAD	DESIRABLE FLOWERS	SHOWY OR USEFUL FRUIT	AUTUMN FOLIAGE COLOR	ORNAMENTAL BARK
MEDIUM DECIDUOUS TREES (usually 20 to 40 feet at maturity)												
G	F	F	F	F	F	Trident Maple (<i>Acer buergerianum</i>) Some trees could suffer winter damage north of Newton. Protect trunk from winter sunscald when young.	20-35	20-30			G	F
G	G	F	G		G	Hedge Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>) Cultivars: 'Evelyn' TN Queen Elizabeth has better fall color.	25-35	25-35			F	
G	F	F	F		G	Shantung Maple (<i>Acer truncatum</i>). Hybrids also available: Norwegian Sunset; Pacific Sunset (hybrids of less hardy Norway Maple). Range of fall color, yellow-red.	25-30	25-30			F	
G		G	G			Goldenrain Tree (<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>). Host to boxelder bugs.	30-40	30-40	G	G	F	
G		G	G	F	G	Osage Orange (<i>Maclura pomifera</i>) Cultivars: 'Wichita'; 'Whiteshield' (vase-shaped). Use fruitless and thornless cultivars only.	30-40+	20-40			G	F

G		F	F			Flowering Crabapple (<i>Malus spp.</i>) Use disease resistant varieties. Cultivars: Donald Wyman; Golden Raindrops; Purple Prince; Red Splendor; Spring Snow; Centurion (TN); Jack (TN) (Siberian) (<i>M. baccata</i> cv. Jackii).	varies	varies	G	G		F
G	F	G	G	F		White Mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>) Use fruitless forms.	30-40+	30-40		F		
G		G	G		G	Chinese Pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>). Do not plant north of Harvey County. Use cold-hardy strains if possible.	30-35	30-40		F	G	
G		F	G		F	Callery Pear (<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>) Cultivars: 'Aristocrat'; 'Capital'; 'Chanticleer' 'Cleveland Select'; 'Redspire'; DO NOT plant 'Bradford'.	30-40+	10-45	G	F	G	
F			F		F	Japanese Tree Lilac , (<i>Syringa reticulata</i>)	25	20	F			F
G		G	G		G	Chinkapin Oak (Yellow Chestnut Oak) (<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>)	35-40+	40-45		F	F	

ENVIRONMENT (tolerant of)						LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES						
FULL SUN	LIGHT SHADE	ALKALINE SOIL (HIGH pH)	DROUGHT	WET SOIL	PESTS (RESISTANT TO)		MATURE HEIGHT	MATURE SPREAD	DESIRABLE FLOWERS	SHOWY OR USEFUL FRUIT	AUTUMN FOLIAGE COLOR	ORNAMENTAL BARK
LARGE and VERY LARGE DECIDUOUS TREES (usually 40 feet and larger at maturity)												
G	F	F	F	F		Freeman Maple (<i>Acer x freemanii</i>) cultivar 'Jeffersred' (Autumn Blaze) (TN). May have shallow roots.	50-60	40-50			G	F
G	F			G		Red Maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>) Cultivars: 'Autumn Flame'; 'October Glory'; 'Red Sunset'; also upright forms. 'Burgundy Belle'	40-60	35-50	F		G	F
G	G	F	F			Sugar Maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>). Caddo (seedling). Cultivars: 'Autumn Splendor'; 'John Pair'; 'Commemoration'; 'Legacy'. All are more heat tolerant and leaf tatter resistant cultivars.	40-60+	30-50			G	
G				G	F	River Birch (<i>Betula nigra</i>). Also available: cultivar 'Heritage' larger leaves, better salmon-white bark.	40-60	40-50	F		F	G
G	F	G	F	G		Common Hackberry (<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>).	40-60	40-50		F	F	G
G		G	G		G	Ginkgo (<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>). Cultivars: 'Autumn Gold'; 'Princeton Sentry' (narrow pyramidal form). Slow-growing. Use named, MALE cultivars only.	50-60+	25-40			G	F
G		G	G	F		Thornless Honeylocust (<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i>). Cultivars: 'Shademaster'; 'Skyline'; Honeylocusts are susceptible to many pests.	40-60+	30-50			F	
G	F	G	G	F	G	Kentucky Coffee Tree (<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>) Male cvs. are avail.	50-60+	30-45		F	F	F
G				G		Sweet Gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>). Several cultivars available for more consistent fall color. Surface roots.	50-75	35-50		F	G	F
G	F	G	F	G		London Planetree (<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>) cultivar 'Bloodgood', best disease resistance to anthracnose.	60-80	50-65		F		G
G		F	G	F	G	Sawtooth Oak (<i>Quercus acutissima</i>).	40-50	30-45		F	F	
G			F	G	F	Swamp White Oak (<i>Quercus bicolor</i>)	50-60	40-60		F	F	F
G			G	F	F	Shingle Oak (<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>)	50-60	40-60		F	F	
G		G	G	F		Bur Oak (<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>).	60-80	50-70		F		

G		G	F	F	English Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>). Also available: cv. 'Fastigiata', upright form only 10-15 feet wide.	40-60+	45-65		F				
G				F	Red Oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>).	60-75	40-60		F	G			
G		F	G	F	Shumard Oak (<i>Quercus shumardii</i>).	60-80	40-60		F	G			
F			F	F	Willow Oak (<i>Quercus phellos</i>)	50-60							
G			F	G	Baldcypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>). Trees usually survive drought, but defoliate as a natural defense. Knees can be a problem in the landscape.	50-70+	20-50		F	G	F		
G	F	F		F	American Linden (<i>Tilia americana</i>). Also available: cv. 'Redmond' pyramidal form. Better north of Harvey County.	50-60+	35-40	F		F			
G	F	G		F	Littleleaf Linden (<i>Tilia cordata</i>) form more rounded. Cultivar: 'Greenspire', pyramidal. Better north of Harvey County.	35-45	25-40	F		F			
G	F	G	G	F	Lacebark Elm (<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>). Also available: cultivars: 'Athena'; 'Allee'; others.	40-60	35-50		F	F	G		
F			F	F	Japanese Zelkova (<i>Zelkova serrata</i>)	30-40	25-30						F

ENVIRONMENT (tolerant of)						LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES										
FULL SUN	LIGHT SHADE	ALKALINE SOIL (HIGH pH)	DROUGHT	WET SOIL	PESTS (RESISTANT TO)	EVERGREEN TREES					MATURE HEIGHT	MATURE SPREAD	DESIRABLE FLOWERS	SHOWY OR USEFUL FRUIT	AUTUMN FOLIAGE COLOR	ORNAMENTAL BARK
G	F	G	G			Upright Chinese Juniper (<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>). Very rust resistant. Cultivars: 'Keteleeri'; 'Robusta Green'; 'Wintergreen'; other disease resistant cultivars are available.	varies	varies		G		F				
G	F	G	G			Eastern Red Cedar (<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>). Also available: cultivar Canaertii (irregular form); other cvs. available. <i>J. virginiana</i> is susceptible to rust (can be controlled). 'Taylor' (upright growth)	30-40+	25-Oct		G		F				
G						Black Hills Spruce (<i>Picea glauca</i> var. <i>densata</i>)	30-40	15-20		F						
G		G	G			Pinyon Pine (<i>Pinus edulis</i>). Slower growing.	10-20+	10-15+		F						
G		F	G			Limber Pine (<i>Pinus flexilis</i>). Limited use - subject to Sphaeropsis blight disease.	30-40	15-30		F						
G		F	G			Austrian Pine (<i>Pinus nigra</i>). Limited use - subject to Sphaeropsis blight and pine wilt diseases.	40-60	25-40		F		F				
G	F	F	G			Southwestern White Pine (<i>Pinus strobiformis</i>).	40-60	25-40		F						

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.
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