



## TREES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PLANTING

*This information is provided as a courtesy by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Urban & Community Forestry Program.*

There are many reasons that specific tree species are not recommended for planting. The primary reasons are related to tree health or nuisance. Tree health problems are usually due to insect or disease susceptibility. This means that it is very common for trees to be invaded by pests. The result is poor tree vigor and growth, dieback and early mortality. Weakened trees may also become hazardous to people and property. Nuisance means that a characteristic of the specific tree species may create an irritating or annoying condition that must be dealt with regularly. For example, mulberry trees drop fruit every year that people can slip on. Silver maple roots go toward water, often getting into sewer lines and must be augered out.

Trees on this "not recommended" list have characteristics that may require additional time, maintenance or money costs. If you choose to use one of these trees, consider the potential problems and determine if you can manage it. You may decide that the benefits of the tree species outweigh the costs for you. For example, a mulberry tree in the back yard may attract and feed birds without causing problems on sidewalks or sewers. A black locust with thorns may be fine where you want to keep people and animals out.

<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SCIENTIFIC NAME</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Maple, Boxelder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	Weak wood, poor branch structure, prone to insect pests, invasive
Maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Over planted, invasive, susceptible to storm damage
Maple, Silver	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Weak wood, poor branch structure, very susceptible to storm damage, invasive roots
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Weak wood, sucker growth
Birch, Paper	<i>Betula papyifera</i>	Prone to major insect pests, very susceptible to storm damage
Birch, European White	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Prone to major insect pests, very susceptible to storm damage
Chestnut, American	<i>Castanea dentata</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests
Russian Olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests, very invasive
Beech, American	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests, esp. Beech bark disease
Ash species	<i>Fraxinus</i> spp.	Prone to major disease and insect pests, esp. Emerald Ash Borer
Gingko (female)	<i>Gingko biloba</i>	Fruit from female trees have very unpleasant odor
Mulberry, White	<i>Morus alba</i>	Messy fruit, susceptible to storm damage, invasive roots
Spruce, Colorado	<i>Picea pungens</i>	Out of range in Michigan, prone to major disease
Spruce, Colorado Blue	<i>Picea pungens</i> var. <i>glauca</i>	Out of range in Michigan, prone to major disease
Poplar, White	<i>Populus alba</i>	Susceptible to storm damage, excessive sucker growth, invasive roots
Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Susceptible to storm damage, excessive sucker growth, invasive roots
Cherry, Black	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Messy fruit, prone to disease and insect pests, very susceptible to storm damage
Pear, Flowering	<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	Over planted, invasive, weak wooded, poor branch structure, very susceptible to storm damage
Locust, Black	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests, sucker growth, thorns
Willow, Weeping	<i>Salix alba</i>	Weak wood, poor branch structure, very susceptible to storm damage, invasive roots
Willow, Black	<i>Salix nigra</i>	Weak wood, poor branch structure, very susceptible to storm damage, invasive roots
Mountain ash, American	<i>Sorbus americana</i>	Major disease and insect pests
Mountain ash, European	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Major disease and insect pests
Elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests esp. Dutch Elm Disease (DED), invasive roots. Plant DED resistant varieties only
Elm, Siberian	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests, very susceptible to storm damage
Elm, Slippery	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests, esp. DED. Plant DED resistant varieties only
Elm, Rock	<i>Ulmus thomasii</i>	Prone to major disease and insect pests