

# **Chelsea Place Townhomes Preferred Tree Selections**

Chelsea Place Townhomes was established in the early 1990s. Its location, design and build quality make it a desired place to live and enjoy life in Dupage County, IL. As the community continues on, it has become apparent that many of the trees will need replacing in the years to come. That said, homeowners have a wealth of selections to choose from and purchase to further enhance their properties. The Chelsea Place Townhomes Board has put together a list of preferred trees owners can choose to plant in their yards. The list was created utilizing local sources such as Dupage County Forest Preserves, Morton Arboretum and the Chicago Botanical Gardens. Trees chosen are native to the area, have strong tolerances to drought, insects and other environmental impacts and are not invasive to other trees in the area. It is important to note that this is not an exclusive list and owners are able to select, upon board approval, different varieties of the preferred or from their own choosing. We encourage everyone to do their own homework before deciding.

## **The Deciduous Group**

### **Bald Cypress**

A deciduous tree that produces cones and loses its needles annually, the Bald Cypress is often seen near lakes, open areas and residential settings. It is a moderate rate grower that will reach heights of 50-70 feet. Hardy in many soils, it prefers wet/moist soil for its deep roots and thrives in a full sun/partial sun environment.

### **Green Hawthorn**

The Green Hawthorn grows at a moderate rate and can reach heights of 15-20 ft. Proper pruning can produce either a more upright tree look or it can be utilized as a large privacy bush. The Hawthorns roots will grow to a moderate depth and prefers moist, well-drained soil. Preferring a full sun/partial shade exposure, the Green Hawthorn produces beautiful white flowers and small fruit. Along with the viburnum, Hawthorns are often referred to as “wintry trees” when in full bloom.

## American Linden

The American Linden is a hardy tree that provides both shade and privacy while easily maintaining its pyramidal shape with nominal pruning. The Linden can grow up to 80 ft. The Lindens roots will grow to a moderate depth and prefers full sun but partial shade is okay. Its coarsely serrated green leaves turn to bright yellow in the fall.

## Hackberry

The Hackberry, in its many varietal, is an upright vase-shaped tree that is known as an aggressive grower that can thrive over 100 years. As with most midwest trees it prefers moist well-drained soil in a sunny/partial shade area. Its roots spread to a moderate depth and the Hackberry is widely known as an extremely tough, tolerant tree. Nature lovers love them for the fruit and small seeds they produce that attract a wide variety of birds and other wildlife.

## Red Maple

The Red Maple is only a small part of the large maple family. The Red Maple produces red, fragrant flowers in early spring, along with deep, fiery foliage in the fall. A shallow rooted tree, the Red Maple requires plenty of sun and can reach heights of 60-70 feet. Under moist, well-drained conditions, the Red Maple is a fast grower for creating front yard privacy or backyard tree lines and wind breaks.

## River Birch

The River Birch is highlighted in beds as the feature tree with shorter plants and shrubs that do not detract from its unique beauty. Most birches thrive in very moist soil under sunny conditions. From its shallow, spidery roots the River Birch can reach 70 feet tall with green leaves changing to a rustic-like yellow color in the fall. Plant birches away from trees and shrubs requiring lots of water and it can be the centerpiece of a front or back yard.

## Flowering Dogwood

Flowering Dogwoods are generally shaped to become small decorative trees or a properly spaced privacy hedge. Most dogwoods grow fairly aggressively and can reach heights in the 10-12 ft range. Popular for its versatility, dogwoods are shallow rooted and can adapt to sun/and or shady

conditions in a variety of soil conditions. At its low height, it is easy to thin and shape to remain vibrant healthy, producing bright early spring flowers and golden/ auburn leaves in fall.

## **Serviceberry**

Serviceberry, such as Allegheny or June, produce white, showy flowers in springtime and orange/red fall foliage. Serviceberry trees are shallow rooted, slow growing trees that can thrive in a 40/60 sun/shade environment. Growing up to 25 ft, Serviceberries prefer moist conditions and additional watering during drought conditions. Its purple fruit is popular with a variety of native birds

## **Eastern Redbud**

Its non- aggressive rooting along with its somewhat narrow, tulip shape make the Eastern Redbud an easily maintained, hardy midwest favorite. The redbud performs well in a variety of soils and will reach a height up to 25 ft. The Eastern Redbud is a slow growing tree but is mainly prized for its profuse pink/purple/white flowering and its soothing fragrance. This low maintenance tree will turn a vibrant yellow in the fall.

## **Ironwood Hornbeam**

The Ironwood Hornbeam possesses a compact root structure that produces a strong hardwood tree that can grow in a variety of sun/shade/moist/dry conditions. At maturity it can slowly grow to 25 ft. Its small, unstructured flowers and beautiful bold birch-like leaves are perfect for a focal point in landscape beds throughout a residential property.

## **The Evergreens**

### **Blue Juniper**

Blue Juniper is a vibrant tree, popular in residential beds and landscapes. It is a slow growing conifer that prefers full sun and well drained soil. Its roots are moderate and can grow to 10-15 ft tall. Junipers do come in many varieties that can range from groundcover to 130 ft behemoths and provide a sharp contrast to other residential greenery.

## Eastern Red Cedar

Eastern Red Cedar is a fragrant tree producing blue berries while supporting a variety of wildlife. Preferring sun, it can grow up 40 ft and can survive in poor soil conditions. Its moderate rooting is perfect for planting large windbreaks or a single tree in somewhat contained spaces. In its infancy, disease control can pay dividends for decades to come.

## White Cedar

The white cedar, with its fan shaped boughs and reddish peeling bark, can grow upwards of 50 ft. It is a slow grower preferring sunshine and cooler climates. Its shallow roots prefer well drained soil and although low maintenance, it is susceptible to some winter burn and its berries will likely attract deer and other wildlife. Mostly native to northern states, it is quite disease resistant and is often planted for privacy..

## Black Hills Spruce

With its dense habit, the Black Hills Spruce is ideal for nesting and songbirds. Growing at a moderate rate under sunshine, it can reach heights up to 40 ft. Moist, acidic and well drained soil is ideal for this tree and its deep established root system. Its pyramidal shape is easy to maintain, even for the most novice gardener. Do not over-water as fungus can be an issue with an over abundance of moisture.

## Norway Spruce

Norway Spruce is a large pyramidal tree that can reach heights up to 60 ft. It produces conical shaped cones that resemble natural wooden ornaments. It is quite disease resistant and has a deep root structure. Considered a moderately fast grower, it prefers full sun and plenty of spacing between homes and other foliage. Although not considered native, its zone 3-6 tolerance and the right care will make this a prominent piece of any residential landscape plan.

## Giant Arborvitae

This narrow, pyramidal evergreen is perfect for creating screening as well as privacy. Giant Arbs grow at a fast pace and prefer moist, well drained soil in a sunny locale. This disease resistant tree provides seeds to birds and other small animals while not being desirable to deer. Its moderate,

compact root structure allows for planting in close proximity and various varieties of the Arborvitae family can range from 10 ft to exceeding 40 ft.

## Blue Spruce

The Blue Spruce is a conical shaped, slow growing tree that is very common in Midwest landscapes. Its varieties can range from 20 to over 40 ft. Its roots run deep and blue spruces prefer at least 6+ hours of sunshine daily. Plant this tree in well-drained soil and know that older, adult trees can become susceptible to some diseases such as fungals and canker. Often seen as green in forests, it is usually blue to bluish green in residential environments.

## Eastern Hemlock

Hemlocks are versatile, serving as stand alone trees or pruned to create privacy hedges. One of the few shade tolerant pines, it requires moist soil for its shallow root structure. Fairly disease tolerant, hemlocks can reach heights exceeding 70 ft. Its lacy, soft needles with dangling cones makes the hemlock appear as the Christmas tree of pines and is quite popular throughout the eastern and northern US.

## Eastern White Pine

With its soft needles, this pine is popular for its ability to grow tall and wide rather quickly. Its roots run deep and its disease tolerance leads to a long botanical life. Plant in a sunny, well drained area and pay close attention to its proximity to other plantings as this pine can become 10-15 feet wide in 7-10 years or sooner. White pines are popular to small mammals and birds for its secure canopy from predators.

## Techny Pines

Technys, part of the Arb family, grow in a somewhat conical shape to heights of 20-30 ft and as wide as 8 feet making them ideal for privacy hedges. Technys prefer full sun to partial shade in soil that is kept moist. Technys do well in non-windy conditions such as enclosed yards. Beware of heavy accumulated snow and ice on its delicate branches as well as blight which may cause some needle loss.

As stated previously, we encourage everyone to do their own homework, get out and talk to nurseries before making a decision. Use this list as a guide for native, attractive trees that historically thrive in our planting zone and will maintain and add to the beauty of Chelsea Place Townhomes and benefit the entire community.

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