

A close-up photograph of several white, bell-shaped flowers hanging from a dark, woody branch. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing a slight pinkish tint. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

Flowering Trees

Native Selections
for the Mid Atlantic Region

By Shade Tree Farm

The trees featured in this book can be found growing in natural woodland or meadow environments in the mid Atlantic and Piedmont region of North America. They are all perfectly at home in our Northern Virginia climate.

Many of these trees are commonly seen in our woodlands and are popular landscape trees. Their use helps create a “sense of place” in the garden.

These trees make beautiful additions to a garden offering interest throughout the seasons. They often are small in stature and are easily used in a number of landscape settings. Birds and other wildlife make use of their flowers, fruit and structure for food and shelter to further add to the landscape intrigue.

Thank you for reading and we hope you enjoy. –

Text and pictures by Philip Klene, Erica Klene and Cecilia Palmer



Shade Tree Farm

Where the trees live

Useful facts of our native tree selections



Serviceberry – pages 5, 6

Growth rate: Average. Form: Upright or erect and vase shaped. Height: 15' to 25'. Spread: 15' to 25'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Spring.



White Redbud – pages 7, 8

Growth rate: Fast. Form: Rounded and vase shaped. Height: 20' to 30'. Spread: 25' to 25'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Spring.



Appalachain Red Redbud– pages 9, 10

Growth rate: Fast. Form: Rounded and vase shaped. Height: 20' to 30'. Spread: 25' to 25'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: Purple – red buds opening to a bright pink, Bloom Time: Spring.



Redbud– pages 11, 12

Growth rate: Fast. Form: Rounded and vase shaped. Height: 20' to 30'. Spread: 25' to 25'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: Lavender, pink and purple. Bloom Time: Spring.



Forest Pansy Redbud – pages 13, 14

Growth rate: Fast. Form: Rounded and vase shaped. Height: 20' to 30'. Spread: 25' to 25'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: Purple. Bloom Time: Spring.



Fringetree – pages 15, 16

Growth rate: Average. Form: Rounded, oval. Height: 25' to 50'. Spread: 25' to 35'. Exposure: Partial shade or partial sun to full sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Spring.

Flowering Trees – Native Selections for the Mid Atlantic Region



Yellowwood – pages 17, 18

Growth rate: Average. Form: Rounded and vase shaped. Height: 50' to 75'. Spread: 35' to 50'. Exposure: Partial shade to partial sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Late Spring.



Dogwood – pages 19, 20

Growth rate: Slow to average. Form: Rounded with a flat top. Height: 25' to 35'. Spread: 25' to 35'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Spring.



Pink Dogwood – pages 21, 22

Growth rate: Average. Form: Upright or erect and vase shaped. Height: 15' – 25'. Spread: 15'-25'. Exposure: Partial shade to full sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Spring.



Winter King Hawthorn – pages 23, 24

Growth rate: Average. Form: Rounded, oval. Height: 15' to 25'. Spread: 25' to 35'. Exposure: Full sun. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Mid to late Spring.



Carolina Silverbell – pages 25, 26

Growth rate: Medium. Form: Rounded. Height: 30' to 40'. Spread: 20' to 35'. Exposure: Semi shade to shade. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Spring.



Sweetbay Magnolia – pages 27, 28

Growth rate: Average. Form: Oval, rounded and upright or erect. Height: 10' to 25'. Spread: 10' to 20'. Exposure: Full sun to full shade. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Summer.



Sourwood – pages 29, 30

Growth rate: Slow. Form: Upright, pyramidal with drooping branches. Height: 25' to 35'. Spread: 50' to 75'. Exposure: Full sun to part shade. Bloom color: White. Bloom Time: Summer.



Serviceberry

This tree has it all! Showy flowers very early in the spring, pretty fruit which tastes fantastic, lovely fall color and a graceful structure.

A valuable ornamental tree at home in many settings. It can be placed along the edges of a woodland where it will add color and depth to the landscape. It is a perfect sized tree to be used as part of a foundation planting and also makes a great lawn accent tree.

Birdwatchers will enjoy having it near the home where they can watch the birds feasting on the fruit in the summer.

Serviceberry

Amelanchier lamarkii



Redbud
Cercis canadensis



2013 Virginia
Wildflower
of the Year



Virginia Native Plant Society

“Fresh flowers and fruits—as long as they are young and succulent—are edible; reportedly the flowers are simultaneously sweet and tart.”

“Ground-feeding birds such as bobwhite quail eat the seeds, and deer (as well as livestock) browse the foliage. Honeybees visit the flowers; native pollinators include long-tongued bees like bumblebees and carpenter bees.”

“Redbud is a highly prized landscape plant, whether grown as a single specimen, in groups, or as scattered understory trees in a woodland garden. The trees are spectacular in bloom, and named selections offer a varied palate of colors from red/purple to white.”

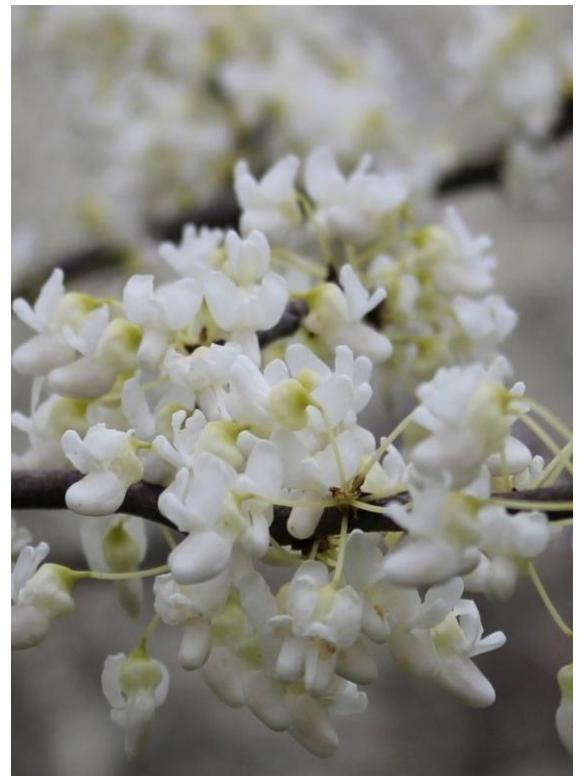
- Virginia Native Plant Society

White Redbud

The white form (pictured on next page) has the same attributes as the native redbud, just absolutely no red pigment in the flower buds, flowers or leaves. Incredibly striking when viewed on rainy days as the bark appears almost black then.

White Redbud

Cercis canadensis alba





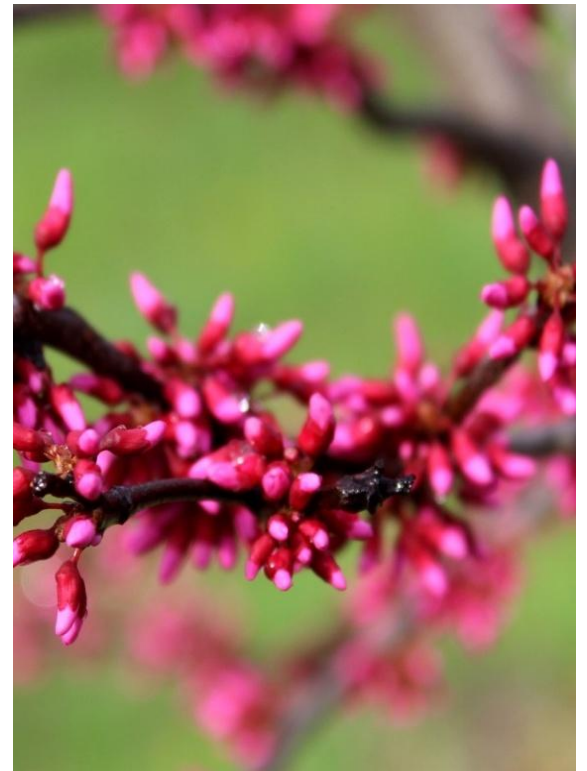
Appalachian Red Redbud

This selection is a naturally occurring variant and was discovered growing alongside a road in Maryland by a plants man, Dr. Max Byrkit.

It has the brightest red flower color of any redbuds. While not really red, the flower color is an incredibly intense deep red pink.

Appalachian Red Redbud

Cercis canadensis 'Appalachian Red'





Redbud

The cheerful pink flowers on this tree are lovely heralds of spring. Redbuds are often seen in drifts along the edges of a woodland or sprinkled under the canopy of an older forest.

The attraction doesn't stop with the flowers. Enjoy the very unique attractive heart shaped leaves during spring and summer. Fall brings beautiful yellow fall color to the foliage and in winter the dark bark and attractive structure creates interest.

Redbud

Cercis canadensis





Winter snow accentuating dark bark and attractive structure

Forest Pansy Redbud (*next page*)

The Forest Pansy has foliage interest galore. As the flowers begin to fade, the iridescent dark purple foliage starts to emerge. This color will gradually fade to a dark green over the course of the summer. Fall brings a return to the color show, a mix of purples, orange and yellows.

Forest Pansy Redbud

Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy'





Fringetree

Another tree with loads of interest throughout the year. A shy native, found hiding deep in the woodlands along moist areas and stream banks. White, fleece like flowers cover the tree in May. These showy and fragrant blooms are often a Mother's Day treat! Female trees will bear blue berries in August and it wears it's fall color in warm yellow tones.

Fringetree

Chionanthus virginicus





American Yellowwood

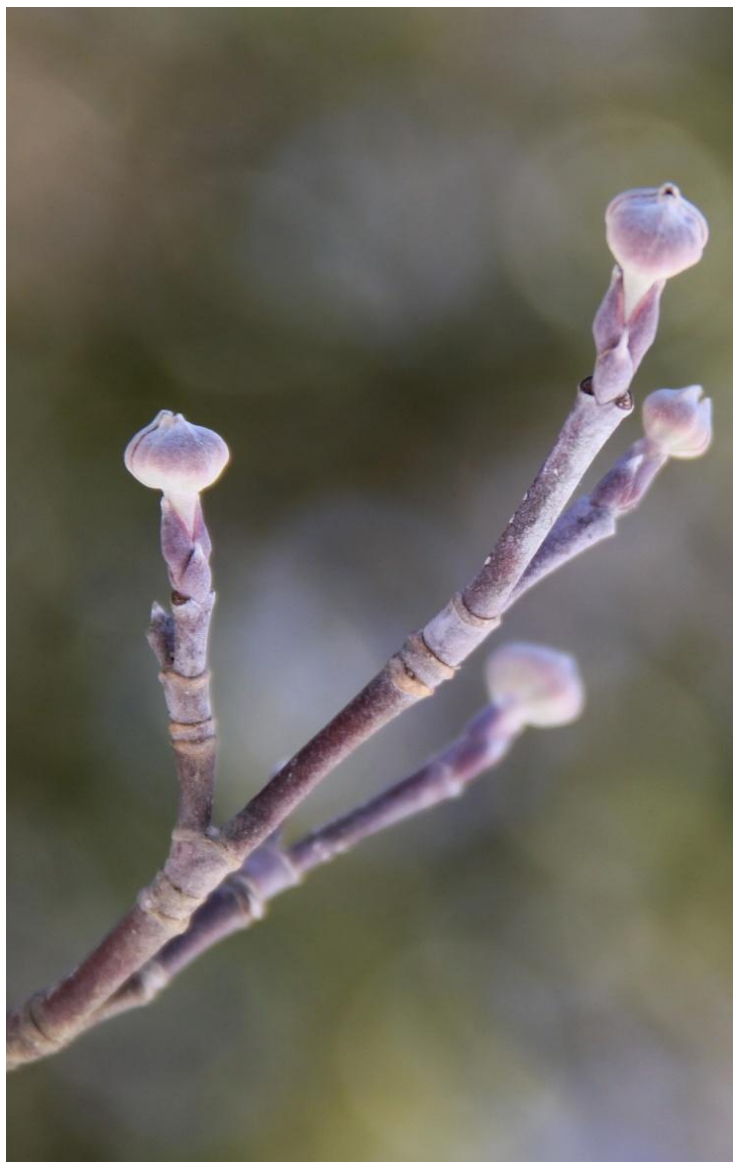
A tall growing selection that can also work as a shade tree in smaller spaces where an Oak or Maple might be too large. The pendulous fragrant white flowers appear in June on older trees and are loved by pollinating insects.

The foliage in summer is attractive deep green and is very resistant to disease and insect damage. Fall transforms the tree into brilliant gold. The smooth, light grey bark and pleasing structure of this tree make it an attractive specimen in the winter months.

Yellowwood

Cladrastis lutea





American Dogwood

The Dogwood is a classically beautiful tree throughout the year. The distinctive flowers appear in early spring. Bright red berries appear in late summer and remain attractive on the tree until birds devour them. Fall brings a gorgeous deep red color to the foliage and the tree's beautiful structure graces the winter landscape.

This tree's beauty has been appreciated and honored for centuries. It was named the Virginia State Flower in 1918 and the Virginia State Tree in 1956. The dogwood is also the state flower of North Carolina and the state tree of Missouri.

Recently, the dogwood was selected as the tree to be given to Japan to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of their gift of the Cherries planted at the Tidal Basin. In 2012, 3000 dogwood trees were sent to Japan to honor the 3000 cherry trees they sent us in 1912.

Dogwood
Cornus florida





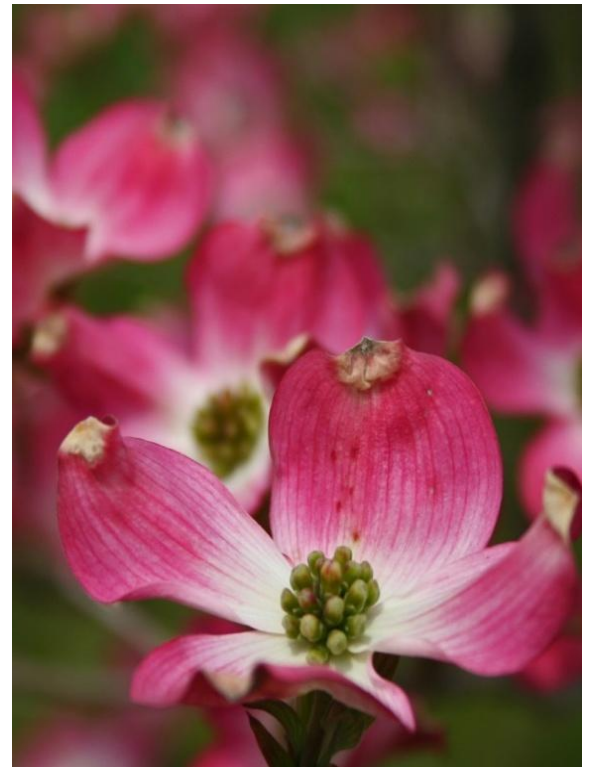
Pink Dogwood

Some trees in the wild were discovered to have pink flowers instead of white. This trait has been selected and propagated so gardeners can enjoy these pink flowers in their own gardens.

The popularity and beauty of the dogwood has interested many breeders to work with this tree and many outstanding cultivars have been developed. There are selections which have larger flowers, more profuse flowers and variegated foliage. Many of the more recent cultivars also have improved insect and disease resistance.

Pink Dogwood

Cornus florida rubra





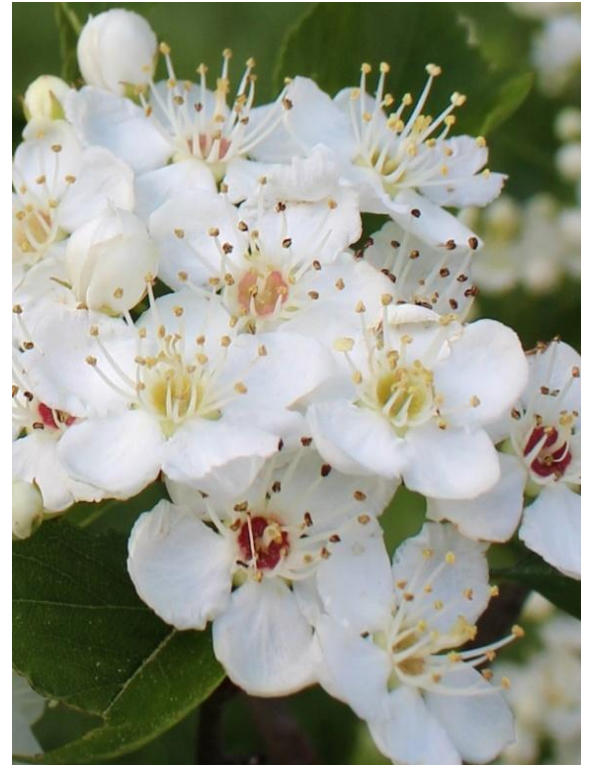
Winter King Hawthorn

As the name suggests, this tree offers exceptional winter interest. Gorgeous red berries hanging from silver coated branches are showy from fall through late winter. The older bark of this tree exfoliates revealing metallic shades of copper and silver. It is quite stunning in a winter garden. An evergreen backdrop will allow these winter attributes to really shine.

The flowers appear in late spring to early summer after the leaves appear. Flowers are clear white and borne in umbels clustered on top of the tree's glossy dark green foliage. The fall foliage show can be colorful shades of red , orange and purple.

Winter King Hawthorn

Crataegus virdis 'Winter King'





Carolina Silverbell

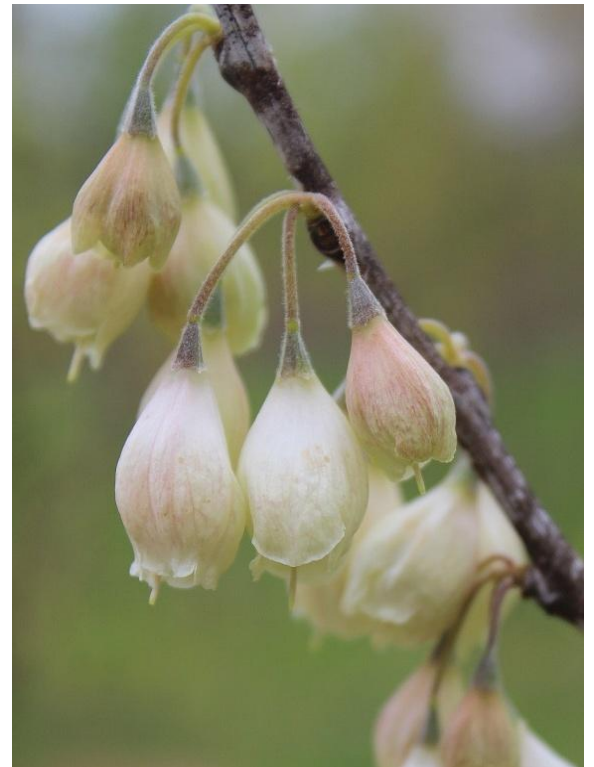
An exceptional tree that is becoming scarce in its native habitat and has not been used in garden settings that much.

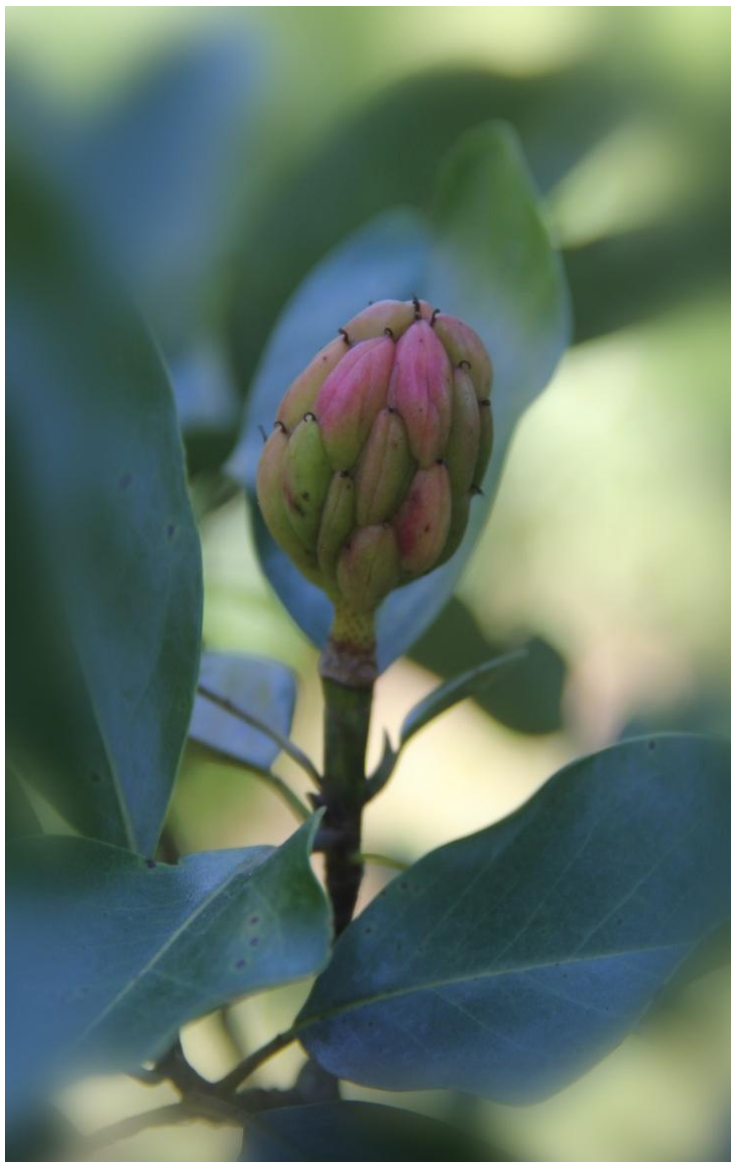
It is a great choice for planting next to a shaded patio or garden seating area where it will be easy to look up into the tree to see the flowers. The beautiful pendulous flowers appear in April and May and are usually white. There are a few cultivars developed which have pink flowers.

The seeds are also attractive and squirrels enjoy them as a food source.

Carolina Silverbell

Helesia tetraptera



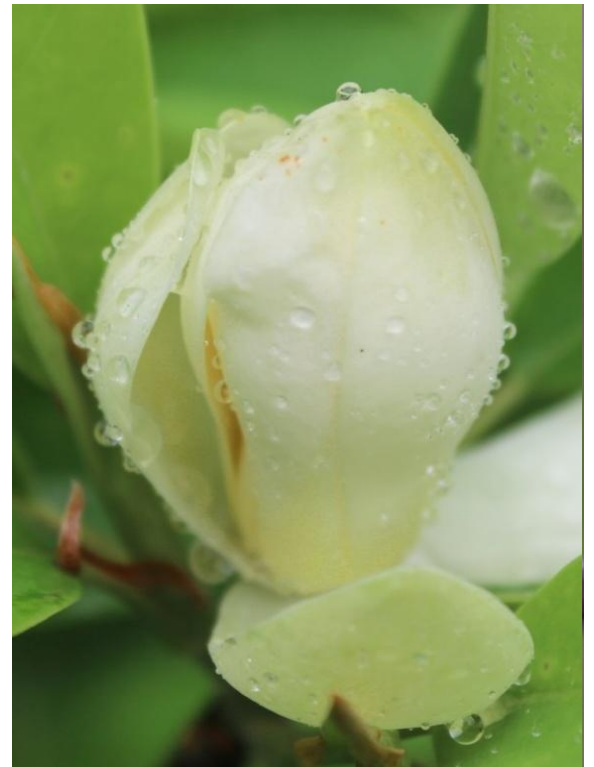


Sweetbay Magnolia

Plant this beauty near a patio where the sweet fragrant flowers can be enjoyed in the summer. It also has very interesting seedpods and attractive foliage. The long narrow leaves add a distinctive look to the landscape and are especially ornamental when their silver undersides can be seen. If used in a sheltered location, the leaves will often stay on the tree throughout the winter. There are a few cultivars which retain the foliage in the winter very nicely. In the wild the tree is found along moist stream banks and is at home in a shady moist location. It is very adaptable though and can also be grown in sunny locations.

Sweetbay Magnolia

Magnolia virginiana





Sourwood

One of the few native trees that is a summer bloomer. The flowers which resemble the popular perennial, Lily of the Valley, appear in June and July and are fragrant. The flower structure is ornamentally attractive even after the flower petals have fallen. The sourwood also is a spectacular choice to bring some fall interest to the garden. The foliage turns a vibrant red in the fall.

The tree has a very attractive architectural habit and often will stay fairly narrow. It is a slow growing tree making it adaptable for planting close to the home.

Sourwood

Oxydendrum arboreum





We Grow BIG Trees

Shade Tree Farm has over 100 acres of trees growing in the Piedmont region in Northern Virginia. It is a division of the award-winning *West Winds Nursery, LLC*. Shade Tree Farm grows and installs BIG trees, i.e. specimen trees.

What takes nature twenty years...

... Shade Tree Farm can do in a day.

All specimen trees are locally grown and adapted to thrive in the Washington, D.C. area. Shade Tree Farm offers a wide selection of both large and small trees at competitive prices. Shade Tree Farm's services include a full range of landscaping services. Whether you want to plant one tree or a forest. Shade Tree Farm and West Winds Nursery can do it.

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