#### Evergreen Trees - residential landscapes

1. **Douglas fir, Rocky Mnt** - *Pseudotsuga menziesii var glauca* (soft blue-green needles; distinctive cones; graceful habit; avoid open, windswept sites; this subspecies is recommended for the Great Plains; 50’x 30’)
2. **Fir, Canaan** - *Abies balsamea var. phanerolepis* (common Christmas tree; nice specimens in eastern 1/3 of NE; 45’x 20’)
3. **Fir, Concolor** - *Abies concolor* (attractive blue-green, long, upswept needles; most reliable fir for Nebraska; 50’x 25’)
4. **Hemlock, Eastern** - *Tsuga Canadensis* (refined evergreen for protected spots; tolerates up to ½- 2/3 shade; 25’x 15’)
5. **Pine, Eastern White** - *Pinus strobus* (tolerates wetter conditions than most pines; nice soft needles)
6. **Pine, Korean** - *Pinus koraiensis* (edible nut; soft, attractive needles in groups of five; looks promising; growing well in Lincoln, York and Pierce; needs to be planted more to determine wider use. 40’x 30’)
7. **Pine, Lacebark** - *Pinus bungeana* (slow growing but graceful; beautiful mottled bark; tends to grow multi-stem habit; more open habit; growing well in Lincoln, Clarkson, Omaha, Scottsbluff to name a few; 45’x 20’)
8. **Pine, Swiss Stone** - *Pinus cembra* (to 40’ tall; seldom seen; edible nut; soft foliage; ‘Chalet’ common selection)
9. **Spruce, Black Hills** - *Picea glauca var. densata* (nice alternative to blue spruce; tolerates tough sites and conditions)
10. **Spruce, Colorado** - *Picea pungens* (the old standby; many cultivars with wide color and habit range; somewhat overplanted)
11. **Spruce, Norway** - *Picea abies* (pendulous [weeping] branch tips; tolerates moist sites; largest of the spruce growing to 70’x 40’)
12. **Spruce, Oriental** - *Picea orientalis* (graceful habit; attractive pendulous branches similar to *P. omorika*; slow growing; 45’x 20’)
13. **Spruce, Serbian** - *Picea omorika* (upright habit; weeping, graceful branches; attractive dark cones; slower growing; 35’x 18’)

#### Evergreen Trees - hot, windswept sites

14. **Pine, Bosnian** - *Pinus heldreichii var. leucodermis* (cdb; short needles, tufted branch tips; dark green; 45’x 30’)
15. **Pine, Limber** - *Pinus flexilis* (native; slow growing; soft needles; very flexible branches; plant on well-drained soils; 50’x 30’)
16. **Pine, Ponderosa** - *Pinus ponderosa* (native; best on well-drained soils; attractive cinnamon-brown-black bark; 65’x 30’)
17. **Pine, Red** - *Pinus resinosa* (Minnesota native; slow growing; reddish bark; several trees at Halsey, Maskenthine, UNL; 40’x 30’)
18. **Pine, Southwestern White** - *Pinus reflexa* (graceful five-needle pine; ‘Van der Wolfs’ a common form; 35’x 20’)

#### Large Deciduous Trees - hot, sunny areas, large open areas; urban landscapes (40’+)

19. **Ash, Manchurian** - *Fraxinus mandshurica* (from Asia; upright growth; drought tolerant; nice yellow fall color; ‘Mancana’ common cultivar; may be resistant to EAB; 40’x 30’)
20. **Catalpa, Northern** - *Catalpa speciosa* (native; tough tree; large, heart-shaped leaves, showy flowers and long seed pods; very adaptable; tolerates confined root space. 50’x 35’)
21. **Coffee tree, Kentucky** - *Gymnocladus dioicus* (native; amazingly adaptable; beautiful winter form; female trees have showy pods throughout winter; plant in areas where plant litter is not a problem or mulch to the drip line. 50’x 40’)
22. **Elm, American** - *Ulmus americana* (disease resistant varieties include ‘Valley Forge’, ‘New Harmony’, ‘Jefferson’; 50’x50’)
23. **Elm, ‘Discovery’** - *Ulmus davidiana var. japonica* (very cold tolerant; rounded habit; glossy green; 45’x 45’)

**New Elm Hybrids** - many disease resistant hybrid elms have been developed and show promise, including:

24. ‘Accolade’ - looks like American elm; Morton Arboretum hybrid of *U. japonica* and *U. wilsoniana*; 50’x 40’
25. ‘Cathedral’ - tough and adaptable; developed in Wisconsin; *U. pumila* x *U. japonica*; 40-50’x 40-50’
26. ‘Frontier’ - smaller, glossy leaves; lacy bark pattern; purple fall color; *U. parvifolia* x *U. carpinifolia*; 40’x 30’
27. ‘New Horizon’ - *U. japonica* x *U. pumila*; upright habit; strong branch structure; 50’x30’
28. ‘Pioneer’ - cross between *U. glabra* and *U. carpinifolia*; fast growing; dense, rounded shade; 50’x 50’
29. ‘Triumph’ - cross between ‘Vanguard’ and ‘Accolade’; very adaptable; vigorous upright growth habit; 60’x 40’
30. ‘Vanguard’ - an improved Siberian elm hybrid; VERY tough and adaptable; glossy leaves; 50’x 45’
31. **Ginkgo** - *Ginkgo biloba* (very interesting leaf; good yellow fall color; distinctive upright habit; tolerant of poor soils; impressive specimens at Arbor Lodge, Forest Lawn Memorial Arboretum in Omaha; female trees produce malodorous fruit; 45’x 35’)

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The following species are recommended for areas in the eastern half of Nebraska and/or typically receive more than 20” of moisture per year.
Size Range: The size range indicated for each plant is the expected average mature height x spread for Nebraska.
32. Hackberry - *Celtis occidentalis* (great old Great Plains tree with legendary tolerance; irregular habit when young but matures to stately rounded crown; interesting corky knobbled bark; ‘Prairie Pride’ resistant to nibble gall and witches broom)

33. Honeylocust - *Gleditsia triacanthos* (a very tough, adaptable tree that thrives on neglect; many great seedless and thornless forms available, including ‘Shademaster’, ‘Skyline’ and ‘Sunburst’; graceful habit and rich golden yellow fall color)

34. Oak, Bur - *Quercus macrocarpa* (outstanding native; big and majestic; very tough and reliable; 60’x 75’)

35. Oak, Black - *Quercus velutina* (native to se NE; glossy, dark-green leaf; great spring and fall color; needs to be used more; 50’x 45’)

36. Oak, Chestnut - *Quercus montana* (interesting chestnut-like leaf; prefers moist, fertile soils; avoid high pH soil; 50’x 35’)

37. Oak, Chinkapin - *Quercus muehlenbergii* (great native tree; tolerates high pH soils; narrow, chestnut-like leaves; 50’x 40’)

38. Oak, English - *Quercus robur* (good across Nebraska; many forms)

39. Oak, Hill's - *Quercus ellipsoidalis* (Minnesota, Wisconsin native; good, early red/maroon fall color; 50’x 35’)

40. Oak, Red - *Quercus rubra* (a very reliable native oak with large lustrous leaves and beautiful fall color from russet to bright red in fall; try to locate trees that came from seeds collected in the Midwest for reliable performance and fall color)

41. Oak, Sawtooth - *Quercus acutissima* (fast growing oak from Asia; unique, sawtooth leaves; upright growth; 50’x 35’)

42. Oak, Scarlet - *Quercus coccinea* (rich glossy leaves turn a beautiful scarlet color in fall; avoid high pH soils; more rounded outline when mature; drought tolerant but prefers a protected site; native as far west as Missouri and Minnesota)

43. Oak, Shingle - *Quercus imbricaria* (KS, MO native; very distinctive narrow, smooth leaves that are held through winter; 45’x 35’)

44. Oak, Shumard - *Quercus shumardii* (rarely planted; very drought tolerant; similar to red oak; good fall color; 45’x 40’)

45. Oak, White - *Quercus alba* (native to Southeastern Nebraska; great majestic tree; good rich red to wine fall color; a durable long lived tree; somewhat slow growing but worth the wait)

46. Osage Orange - *Maclura pomifera* (new thornless, fruitless cultivars available including ‘White Shield’ and ‘Wichita’; display vigorous growth with lustrous, dark green leaves; a very drought tolerant tree)

47. Pecan - *Carya illinoiensis* (makes a nice yard tree; underutilized; seek northern seed sources; transplant when small; 50’x 50’)

48. Walnut, Black - *Juglans nigra* (native; proven throughout Nebraska; tough and reliable; good lumber tree; 60’x 45’)

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### Large Deciduous Trees - residential landscapes

49. Baldcypress - *Taxodium distichum* (a graceful, deciduous conifer; great for wet areas; also drought tolerant; good cinnamon-brown fall color; state champion in Maxwell Arboretum, UNL has a 5’ diameter trunk; 50’x 30’)

50. Hickory, Bitternut - *Carya cordiformis* (most common native hickory; sulphur-yellow buds; transplant when small; big specimens in NE City at Wyuka Cemetery; Lincoln at 26th & O; makes an outstanding shade tree and deserves to be planted more. 40’x 30’)

51. Hickory, Shagbark - *Carya ovata* (native to se NE; shaggy bark forms on mature trees; handsome, clean foliage turns yellow in fall; prefers moist, fertile soil; transplant when small; 50’x45)

52. Linden, American - *Tilia americana* (native to eastern 1/3; distinctive, large leaves; has proven to be dependable throughout Nebraska landscapes; drought tolerant; casts heavy shade; fragrant flowers a favorite of bees; 60’x 40’)

53. Linden, Littleleaf - *Tilia cordata* (very pyramidal shape; good yard tree that tolerates wet or dry soils; densely branched and leaves turn a reasonable yellow in fall; ‘Greenspire’, ‘Glenleven’, ‘Legend’ and ‘Chancellor’ are excellent selections)

54. Linden, Silver - *Tilia tomentosa* (dark, shiny leaves have silvery underside; doing well in Lincoln after 20 years. 50’x 40’)

55. Maple, Black - *Acer nigrum* (eastern native as far west as central Iowa; large, droopy leaves; yellow-orange fall color; ‘Green Column’ an upright form; nice specimens at UNL and Lincoln Regional Center, Ralph Steyer Arboretum in Blair. 45’x 35’)

56. Maple, Freeman - *Acer x freemanii* (a fast growing hybrid between red and silver maples; good on tough sites; ‘Autumn Blaze’ has nice central leader, fall color; ‘Celebration’ for upright habit and ‘Marmo’ selected from Morton Arboretum near Chicago)

57. Maple, Norway - *Acer platanoides* (over planted but still good on many sites; ‘Crimson King’, ‘Emerald Lustre’, ‘Emerald Queen’, ‘Deborah’, and ‘Superform’ are all improved selections for branch habit and cold hardiness)

58. Maple, Red - *Acer rubrum* (nice specimen tree with beautiful fall color; will not tolerate polluted or stressful sites and best planted in deep, organic soils, avoiding heavy clay and high pH; ‘Red Sunset’, ‘October Glory’, ‘Sun Valley’ all highly rated)

59. Maple, Sugar - *Acer saccharum* (beautiful tree that should be planted more; nice fall color and attractive chalky bark; 50’x 50’; suitable cultivars and selections include Caddo, ‘Fall Fiesta’, ‘Green Mountain’, ‘Legacy’, ‘Table Rock’, ‘Wright Brothers’)

60. Tulip Tree - *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tulip-like, upturned, orange-yellow flowers; distinctive tulip-shaped leaves can turn butter yellow in fall; specimen trees in Oakland, Humphrey, Lincoln, Fremont, Omaha. 60’x 45’)

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### Medium Deciduous Trees - urban landscapes; hot, sunny sites (20 to 40’ tall)

61. Aspen, Quaking - *Populus tremuloides* (native selection Prairie Gold; attractive creamy bark & fluttering leaves turn golden-yellow; main trunk short-lived with re-sprouting from roots; best planted in confined area with room to colonize; 30’x 15’)

62. Cherry, Black - *Prunus serotina* (overlooked se NE native; eye-catching when in flower, similar to chokecherry; fast growing, adaptable; handsome reddish bark; small cherries relished by song birds; State Champion near Barada, NE; 45’x 35’)

63. Chokecherry - *Prunus virginiana* (tough reliable native; suckers to form thickets; easily kept confined with mowing; ‘Canada Red’ and ‘Shubert’ are purple-leaf forms of this)


65. Filbert, Turkish - * Corylus colurna* (also called Turkish tree hazel; pyramidal shape in youth, eventually rounded; scaly bark; handsome dark green foliage offers no fall color; interesting winter catkins; doing well in Lincoln, North Platte. 45’x 35’)

66. Lilac, Japanese Tree - *Syringa reticulata* (great ornamental with fragrant white flower clusters in late spring; beautiful cherry-like bark; Pekin Lilac is very similar only harder)

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67. **Lilac, Pekin** - *Syringa pekinensis* (creamy white flowers; attractive, flaky bark; similar to Jap. tree lilac; 20-30’ trees in Blair Arboretum, North Platte Research Station; ‘Copper Curls’ new selection from NDSU; 20’x 15’)

68. **Maple, Hedge** - *Acer campestre* (yellow fall color; drought tolerant; grown as a hedge in Europe; doing well in Lincoln, Blair; 30’x 25’)

69. **Maple, Miyabe** - *Acer miyabei* (thick, glossy foliage turns yellow in fall; ‘State Street’ nice upright cultivar; 30’x 25’)

70. **Pagodatree, **Japanese** - *Sophora japonica* (uniformly round; attractive, late summer flowers in creamy panicles; 30’x 30’)

71. **Pear, Callery** - *Pyrus calleryana* (upright ornamental with showy white flowers in early spring; nice maroon-red fall color; 30’x 25’; improved cultivars include ‘Aristocrat’, ‘Autumn Blaze’, ‘Chanticleer’, ‘Redspire’; avoid ‘Bradford’)

72. **Pear, USSurian** - *Pyrus ussuriensis* (glossy leaves; nice fall color; better drought tolerance than *P. calleryana*; 25’x 20’)

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**Medium Deciduous Trees - protected sites, part-shade (20-40’ tall)**

73. **Alder, Black (common** - *Alnus glutinosa* (useful for wet soils and water’s edge; attractive glossy leaves; cone-like fruit; 30’s 20’)

74. **Beech, European** - *Fagus sylvatica* (smooth bark; nice habit; avoid windy sites; hardy purple leaf forms exist; several nice specimens in Lincoln and Blair; 35’x 25’)

75. **Beech, American** - *Fagus grandiflora* (eastern U.S. native; attractive smooth bark; needs fertile, moist soil; State Champion at Arbor Lodge; beautiful foliage; 40’x 30’)

76. **Birch, Paper** - *Betula papyrifera* (native to Niobrara valley; bark exfoliates in papery strips to reveal orange-brown inner bark; wet, well-drained sandy or rocky loams in part, preferably afternoon, shade.)

77. **Birch, Himalayan** - *Betula utilis var jacquemontii* (native to the Himalayas; brightest white bark of any birch; borer resistant)

78. **Birch, Japanese White** - *Betula platyphylla* (the Asian white birch selection ‘Whitespire’ considered resistant to bronze birch borer; the native paper birch is highly desirable when properly sited; avoid planting in heavy clay and stressed sites)

79. **Birch, River** - *Betula nigra* (a beautiful tree with exfoliating cinnamon brown bark; avoid high pH soils; ‘Heritage’ has lighter bark and ‘Little King’ is a nice dwarf form; native to wet areas as far west as Iowa; performs well on upland soils as well)

80. **Birch, Rocky Mountain** - *Betula occidentalis* (native to Sioux CO; attractive cherry-like bark; often multistemmed; tough and adaptable, but prefers part shade and even moisture)

81. **Birch, Sweet** - *Betula lenta* (eastern U.S. native; one of the best birches; beautiful yellow fall color; reddish-brown bark)

82. **Black Gum** - *Nyssa sylvatica* (doing well in Lincoln, Tekamah, Stanton; handsome, blemish-free foliage turns red-purple in fall; slow growing, but strong, horizontal branches; 30’x 25’)

83. **Buckeye, Ohio** - *Aesculus glabra* (native; very tough & adaptable; rounded form; interesting ‘buckeye’ fruit; 30’x 30’)

84. **Buckeye, Yellow** - *Aesculus flava* (overlooked shade tree with handsome, tropical-looking foliage; smooth fruit capsule; adaptable, easy to grow; nice yellow-orange fall color; 40’x 30’)

85. **Horsechestnut** - *Aesculus hippocastanum* (sticky, shiny winter buds; beautiful creamy flowers; prone to leaf diseases; 35’x 30’)

86. **Chestnut, Chinese** - *Castanea mollissima* (native to American Chestnut but smaller and more rounded; 35’x 30’)

87. **Katsuratree** - *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* (beautiful multi-stemmed tree with handsome bark; heart-shaped leaves; 35’x 25’)

88. **Larch, Japanese/ **Common** - *Larix kaempferi* or *L. decidua* (deciduous conifers; cold hardy; prefers moist soils; 60’x 40’)

89. **Magnolia, Cucumber** - *Magnolia acuminata* (thick lustrous leaves; cucumber like fruit; 40’x 30’; the green-yellow flowers are not showy, however the hybrid form ‘Elizabeth’ was selected for its very attractive yellow flowers)

90. **Maple, Paperbark** - *Acer griseum* (small tree; cinnamon red exfoliating bark is great for the winter landscape; doing well in SE NE)

91. **Maple, Three-**flower - *Acer triflorum* (newer selection from Asia; papery bark; 3-leaf maple with nice orange-red fall color; very hard to find at the nursery due to propagation difficulties; worth looking for; nice trees in Bellevue, Lincoln; 20’x 15’)

92. **Persimmon** - *Diopyros virginiana* (native to e. G.P.; distinctive blocky bark; tasty fruit; prefers moist, fertile soil; 30’x 20’)

93. **Sweetgum** - *Liquidambar styraciflua* (star-like leaves; interesting spiked seed balls; yellow-purple fall color; doing well in southeast NE; ‘Moraine’ selected for upright habit, hardiness; 40’x 35’)

94. **Yellowwood** - *Cladrastis kentukea* (unique creamy-white, panicled flowers; attractive smooth bark; 35’x 35’)

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**Small Deciduous Trees - hot, sunny sites (under 20’ tall)**

95. **Devil’s Walking Stick** – *Aralia spinosa* (tough, adaptable tree native to eastern U.S.; attractive, compound foliage; often suckers from base to form a multi-stemmed small tree)

96. **Dogwood, Corneliancherry** - *Cornus mas* (tough, reliable; large shrub or small tree; early yellow flowers; red fruit; 15’x 15’)

97. **Euonymus, Winterberry** - *Euonymus bungeanus* (very attractive with red fall fruits; tough and adaptable; look for ‘Prairie Radiance’ newer selection out of NDSU and Dale Herman; 20’x 20’)

98. **Evodia, Korean** - *Evodia danielli* -seldom seen; nice elderberry like fruit; great bark; seen at Arbor Lodge.

99. **Goldenrain Tree** - *Koelreuteria paniculata* - beautiful in flower and fruit set; tough, adaptable tree; very drought tolerant.

100. **Hawthorn** - *Crataegus spp.* (good, tough small tree; nice fruit effect in fall. Some of the better types worth trying include Cockspur Hawthorn, ‘Winter King’ Hawthorn, and Washington Hawthorn)

101. **Hawthorne, Russian** – *Crataegus ambigua* (overlooked hawthorne with copious bright red fruit clusters in fall; tough, adaptable.

102. **Maple, Shantung** - *Acer truncatum* (China native with glossy, star-shaped leaves; rounded form; proving to be tough/reliable; nice trees in Wayne, Lincoln, Omaha, young tree in Scottsluff; 15’x 15’)

103. **Oak, Dwarf Chinkapin** - *Quercus prinoides* (se NE native; variable habit but usually shrubby; prolific acorn producer; sulfur yellow catkins in early spring; best in full sun; gets mildew in shade; this oak loves the heat and sun; 15-20’x 10-15’)

104. **Sassafras** - *Sassafras albidum* (interesting mitten like leaves with orange fall color; spicy-aromatic branches; 30’x 20’)
Trees for the Collector - uncommon in NE; very promising but need further testing

118. Hickory, Mockernut - *Carya tomentosa* (dark gray bark with furrowed, diamond pattern; nut meat is hard to extract; trials at UNL and NE nutgrowers show it is reliably hardy to zone 5; 20’x 15’)
119. Hickory, Shellbark - *Carya laciniosa* (similar to C. ovata but with tastier nut; big seeds and husks, so plant in open area; 60’ tree in Alvo property, trials at UNL and NE nutgrowers show it is reliably hardy to zone 5; 40’x 35’)
120. Hornbeam, European - *Carpinus betulus* (smooth gray bark; upright; tight, uniform branching; attractive leaf; 30’x 20’)
121. Maackia, Amur - *Maackia amurensis* (seldom seen legume; worth a closer look; attractive summer flowers; 25’x 20’)
122. Maple, Korean - *Acer pseudosieboldianum* (hardier alternative to Japanese maple; patio size tree; red fall color; 20’x 15’)
123. Maple, Trident - *Acer buergerianum* (scaly bark; brilliant wine red color in fall; prefers protected sites; doing fine in Lincoln area;; holds foliage late; tends to grow upright; strong branches, slower growing, 20’x 15’)
124. Mountainash, European - *Sorbus aucuparia* (nice white flower and bright red fruit but disease prone; nice trees at North Platte Research Center; 25’x 20’)
125. Mountainash, Korean - *Sorbus alnifolia* (beautiful flowers and fruit; attractive glossy, crisp leaves; orange fall color; 30’x 25’)
126. Oak, Gambel - *Quercus gambelii* (native to Rocky Mountains; variable multi-stem habit; prefers well-drained soils; 20’x 15’)
127. Oak, Bebbs - *Quercus x bebbiana* (hybrid between bur oak and white oak; vigorous grower; very hardy; 50’x 50’)
128. Oak, Mongolian - *Quercus mongolica* (similar in appearance to Bur Oak; performing well in N. Dakota; reportedly good red fall color; 20’ trees at NSA Affiliate sites in Lincoln & Blair; 50’x 45’)
129. Oak, Overcup - *Quercus lyrata* (refined appearance; prefers consistent moisture; avoid high pH soils; 50’ specimens surround a church in Auburn; Lincoln, Blair Arboretum sites; 60’x 45’)
130. Oak, Post - *Quercus stellata* (tough, corky bark; medium rounded tree; ideal for hot, dry sites; native to southern KS; 30’x 25’)
131. Oak, Scarlet - *Quercus coccinea* (similar in habit to pin oak; beautiful scarlet color in fall; avoid high pH soils; 50’x 40’)
132. Oak, Willow - *Quercus phellos* (very narrow distinctive leaves; 30’ trees in Fairbury, Brownville, Falls City; 45’x 40’)
133. Parrotia - *Parrotia persica* (lustrous green witchhazel like leaves turn yellow-orange in fall; exfoliating bark; nice specimen at Lincoln Regional Center Arboretum; likes part-shade, protection from winds; 20’x 15’)
134. Pine, Japanese White - *Pinus parviflora* (graceful open natural habit; attractive large cones; 30’x 20’)
135. Smoketree, American - *Cotinus obovatus* (blue-green leaves; yellow-orange fall color; plumy, smoke-like flowers; 20’x 15’)
136. Sugarberry - *Celtis laevigata* (related to hackberry but with smooth bark; marginally hardy here)
137. Zelkova - *Zelkova serrata* (related to elm; attractive smooth bark; upright habit when young; glossy leaves; 40’x 30’)

**DID YOU KNOW?** NSA’s horticulture program promotes underutilized species. Find plants at nsaplants.org.

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Since 1978, the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum has been helping to grow sustainable landscapes for healthy homes and communities. Please support the NSA by becoming a member. Benefits include admission privileges at botanical gardens across North America, plant discounts, and publications with plant and garden recommendations. Learn more at arboretum.unl.edu.