

2025 WOOD SWCD TREE DESCRIPTIONS



Arborvitae *Thuja occidentalis* is a favorite of people and deer. The soft, evergreen scales make this a great choice for windbreaks and privacy plantings, and

also provide deer browse when there is snow.



Norway Spruce *Picea abies* can quickly grow up to 3' a year until it hits 50' tall, then will slowly grow to over 150' tall. While not native to northwest Ohio, they are common as landscape and Christmas trees



Bald Cypress *Taxodium distichum* is a conifer that loses its needles every fall. It requires wet soil and will slowly grow to 100' tall. A great option where the ground is too wet for other trees.



Concolor Fir *Abies concolor* is a popular species for Christmas trees and closely resembles blue spruce. It is better adapted to Ohio's soils and weather and can reach over 100' tall, while keeping a symmetrical shape.



Canadian Hemlock *Tsuga canadensis* has soft needles and branches which provide privacy for people and shelter for wildlife. It thrives in shady conditions, making it a great option to refresh an aging windbreak.



Butternut *Juglans cinerea* will grow rapidly in open sun and closely resemble the more common black walnut. Butternuts have smoother bark and a less bitter nut.



Red Maple *Acer rubrum* lives up to its name in the fall. It is a fast-growing maple without the structure problems of silver maple, and

will do well in almost any soil type.



Shingle Oak *Quercus imbricaria* has unusual oval leaves and is on the shorter side, usually only reaching 60 ft. Its native range broadly follows the Ohio River watershed, up to the southern shores of the Great Lakes.



Allegheny Serviceberry *Amelanchier laevis* is a smaller understory tree that puts on a show of white flowers in the spring and turns a bright orange-red in the fall. It is a great option for lawns and near power lines.



Elderberry *Sambucus nigra* is a large shrub or a small tree. It bears clusters of flowers in mid-summer, followed by shiny dark fruits that are popular with people and wildlife.



Winterberry *Ilex verticillata* is a medium size shrub with shiny leaves. Despite being a holly, it will drop those leaves in the fall, though female plants produce typical holly berries if there are also male trees within 40 ft.



Red-osier Dogwood *Cornus sericea* combines a compact structure with striking red bark, especially on younger shoots. It appreciates soil that is sometimes waterlogged, and produces smooth white berries for wildlife.