



# Recommended Plants

## For Central Kansas

### Tall Deciduous Trees (over 45')

- American Elm** -(use only Dutch elm disease tolerant varieties) ie. Jefferson, Princeton, New Harmony, Prairie Expedition,
- American Sycamore** –Platanus Occidentalis (adaptable, but more susceptible to foliar disease than London Planetree)
- American Linden**-Tillia Americana, \*can't tolerate extended drought , but wonderful tree for pollinators
- Baldcypress**- Taxodium distichum (may suffer iron chlorosis in high pH soil, Frio River baldcypress CAN tolerate high soil pH)
- Black Walnut**– Juglans nigra
- Bur Oak** -Quercus macrocarpa (one of the best trees for Kansas)
- Caddo Sugar Maple**-Acer saccharum 'Caddo', 'John Pair', 'Autumn Splendor', 'Flashfire', others
- Common Hackberry** -Celtis occidentalis-prone to decay with age
- English Oak** (Quercus robur).
- Ginkgo**: 'Autumn Gold', 'Princeton Sentry' use MALE cultivars only
- Honey locust** -Gleditsia triacanthos inermis 'Skyline', 'Shademaster' and other thornless cultivars
- Hybrid Elms**- Patriot, Triumph, Greenstone, Accolade, New Horizon, others
- Japanese Pagodatree**- Sophora japonica
- Japanese Zelkova** - Zelkova serrata
- Kentucky Coffeetree** -Gymnocladus dioicus 'Espresso', others
- London Planetree** (Platanus x acerifolia) Cultivars - 'Bloodgood' or 'Exclamation' have best disease resistance
- Miyabe Maple** -Acer miyabei
- Northern Catalpa**-Catalpa Speciosa
- Oregon Trail Sugar Maple**-native maple from Hiawatha KS
- Sawtooth Oak** -Quercus acutissima
- Shumard Oak**-Quercus schumardii
- Texas Red Oak**-Quercus texana, red fall color

### Medium Deciduous Trees (30 to 45')

- Amur Maackia**-Maackia amurensis, tough, summer flowers
- Chinkapin Oak** -Quercus muehlenbergii
- Columnar oaks**: 'Crimson Spire', 'Skinny Jeans', others
- Shantung Maple** -Acer truncatum , also Norwegian/Pacific Sunset
- Ornamental Pear** -Pyrus calleryana 'Chastity' (infertile, won't re-seed) 'Aristocrat', 'Cleveland Select', 'Autumn Blaze', 'Chanticleer'
- Goldenrain Tree** -Koeleruteria paniculata, summer flowers
- Hardy Rubber Tree** -Eucommia ulmoides
- Hedge maple**-Acer campestre, tolerant of tough conditions
- Lacebark Elm** -Ulmus parvifolia (some can get larger than 45')
- Frontier Elm** -Ulmus frontier, some red fall color
- Osage Orange**-Maclura pomifera, use thornless & fruitless varieties such as 'Whiteshield', "Wichita", very few problems in KS
- White Mulberry** -fruitless Morus alba
- Western Soapberry** -Sapindus drummondii-fruit can be messy

### Small Deciduous Trees (under 30')

- Amur Maple** -Acer ginnala
- Eastern or Texas Redbud** -Cercis sp. (15-20 year life)
- Flowering Crabapple** -Malus, various cultivars
- Chinese Fringe Tree**-Chionanthus spp
- Japanese Tree Lilac**- Syringa reticulata
- Japanese Zelkova**– 'City sprite', 'Wireless' (look for small varieties)
- Smoketree**-Cotinus spp. American smoketree has good fall color
- Seven Son Flower** -Heptacodium miconioides
- Tatarian Maple**-Acer tataricum, fairly adaptable to KS soils

### Large Deciduous Shrubs (over 10')

- American Red Plum-Prunus Americana (will spread/naturalize)
- Beauty Bush -Kolkwitzia amabilis
- Blackhaw Viburnum – Viburnum prunifolium
- Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum – Viburnum rufidulum
- Common Chokecherry -Prunus virginiana
- Lilacs -Syringa vulgaris
- Ninebark -Physocarpus opulifolius
- Rough-leafed Dogwood -Cornus drummondii
- Rose of Sharon - Hibiscus syriacus
- Seven Son Flower – Heptacodium miconioides (very tough)
- Shadblow Serviceberry-Amelanchier Canadensis
- Siberian Pea Shrub- Caragana arborescens
- Serviceberry-Amelanchier arborea-can be shrub or tree form
- Western Sandcherry -Prunus besseyi
- Winter Honeysuckle -Lonicera fragrantissima
- Chastetree – Vitex spp.

### Medium Deciduous Shrubs (5 to 10')

- Butterfly Bush Buddleia davidii
- Burning Bush-Euonymus alatus
- Buttonbush-Cephalanthus occidentalis (prefer consistent moisture)
- Dwarf Ninebark -Physocarpus opulifolius Nanus or 'Tiny Wine'
- Elderberry- Sambucus Canadensis, good colonizer-needs moist soil
- Flowering Quince- Chaenomeles speciosa
- Forsythia-Forsythia spp.
- Fragrant Sumac -Rhus aromatic
- Japanese Barberry- Berberis thunbergii
- Korean Lilac- Syringa meyeri
- Crapemyrtle – Lagerstroemia indica (top may die back in winter)
- Mockorange- Philadelphus spp.
- Oakleaf Hydrangea -Hydrangea quercifolia
- Sandhill Plum -Prunus angustifolia
- Three Leaf Sumac -Rhus trilobata
- Peking Cotoneaster - Cotoneaster acutifolia
- Privet-Ligustrum spp.
- Spirea-Spirea spp. (Vanhoutte Spirea)
- Shrub rose– Rosa spp.
- Viburnum-Viburnum spp. (Several types, some prefer shade)

### Small Deciduous Shrubs (under 5')

- Black Chokeberry-Aronia melanocarpa
- Bluemist Spirea -Caryopteris spp.
- Butterfly Bush (dwarf types available)
- Common Snowberry/Coralberry-Symphoricarpos spp.
- Cornus alba-Red-stem Dogwood-compact & larger forms available
- False Indigo -Amorpha fruticosa
- Golden Currant -Ribes odoratum
- St. Johns wort -Hypericum spp. Such as 'Sunburst' and others
- Japanese Barberry-(dwarf types like Crimson Pygmy or Kobold)
- Leadplant -Amorpha canescens
- Potentilla 'Happy Face'-Bush Cinquefoil
- Purple Beautyberry – Callicarpa dichotoma
- Spirea - Spirea spp. (Bumald, smaller types)

### Evergreen Trees

- Juniper -Juniperus spp. (many cultivars in different sizes and shapes available--look for Juniperus virginiana, Juniperus chinensis, communis, horizontalis, and others.
- Avoid Juniperus 'scopulorum' varieties

### Evergreens Continued....

Eastern Red Cedar (native juniper) is recommended for windbreaks  
Pines (use sparingly due to pine wilt and diseases) Pinyon,  
Ponderosa, Limber, Lacebark, Southwestern White, Bosnian...  
Oriental Arborvitae-the best tried and true arborvitae in KS  
*Work is being done to identify other evergreens for Kansas*

### Large Evergreen Shrubs

Juniper-Juniperus spp. (many types)  
Leatherleaf Viburnum-V. rhytidophyllum (leaves hang on)  
Pragense Viburnum-V. x pragense (leaves hang on)  
Pyracantha-Pyracantha spp. (tough, has thorns)

### Medium Evergreen Shrubs

Junipers- Juniperus various species  
Manhattan Euonymus-Euonymus kiautschovicus  
Yew-Taxus spp. Larger and smaller forms available

### Small Evergreen Shrubs

Juniper-Juniperus various species  
Yucca -Yucca filamemtoza

### Groundcover options for Shade (beneath trees, north walls)

Bergenia -Bergenia cordifolia  
English Ivy-Hedera helix  
Mahonia, Creeping Mahonia repens  
Liriope - Liriope spp.  
Periwinkle -Vinca minor  
Solomon's Seal-Polygonatum odoratum  
Virginia Creeper, Parthenocissus quinquefolia  
Woodland Phlox-Phlox divaricata

### Groundcover options for Full Sun

Catmint -Nepeta, look for low growing types  
Creeping Junipers -Juniperus various species  
Daylily -Hemerocallis various species  
Evergreen Candytuft -Iberis sempervirens  
English Ivy-Hedera helix (better on East or North if in full sun)  
Gro-Low Fragrant Sumac Rhus aromatica 'GroLow'  
Lambs Ears -Stachys byzantina  
Lilyturf -Liriope spicata  
Periwinkle -Vinca minor  
Phlox (Creeping) -Phlox subulata  
Ribbon Grass -Phalaris arundinacea var. picta-aggressive spreader  
Rock Soapwort -Saponaria ocyroides  
Sedum, -Stonecrop Sedum various species  
Snow in Summer -Cerastium tomentosum  
Thyme (Creeping) -Thymus serpyllum  
Virginia Creeper-Parthenocissus quinquefolia

### Ornamental Grasses

Ornamental grasses are a great choice for Kansas, there are many varieties in different sizes and shapes. **Examples:**  
Big Bluestem, Blue Oat Grass, Blue Grama, Fountain Grass, Dwarf Fountain Grass, Feather Reed Grass, Maiden Grass, Hardy Pampas Grass, Indiangrass, Little Bluestem, Lovegrass, Northern Sea Oats, Prairie Dropseed, Switchgrass, Sideoats Grama

**Perennials—full sun (\*\*)** tolerates part shade  
**(\*)** plants that do not tolerate wet /saturated sites

\*Allium-Ornamental onion (multiple varieties) \*\*  
\*Agastache/Hummingbird Mint – 'Desert Sunrise', others  
\*Artemesia - Artemisia spp.  
\*Aster – Aster spp.  
\*Blue/False Indigo – Baptisia sp.  
\*Blue Star Amsonia -Amsonia \*\*  
\*Black-eyed Susan/Rudbeckia - Rudbeckia spp.  
\*Butterfly Milkweed - Asclepias tuberosa  
\*Coreopsis - Coreopsis, various cultivars  
Columbine-Aquilegia- \*\* prefer shade  
\*Catmint -Nepeta spp.  
Daylily - Hemerocallis spp. \*\*  
\*Engelmann's daisy -Engelmannia peristenia  
\*Missouri/ Evening Primrose - Oenothera missouriensis  
\*False Indigo - Amorpha fruticosa  
\*Gaillardia - Gaillardia puchella  
\*Heliopsis– Ox Eye Sunflower  
\*Leadplant - Amorpha canescens  
\*Mexican Primrose – Oenothera speciosa/berlandieri  
\*False Sunflower – Heliopsis helianthoides  
\*Garden Phlox – Phlox paniculata and other Phlox spp.  
\*Gaura - Gaura spp. Use native varieties to benefit native insects  
\*Globe Thistle - Echinops spp. \*\*  
Goldenrod – Solidago spp. \*\*  
Golden Alexanders– Zizia aurea-needs some soil moisture \*\*  
\*Geranium (Perennial), Cranesbill – Geranium sanguineum \*\*  
Wild Geranium – Geranium maculatum  
\*Greyheaded coneflower-Ratibida pinnata  
Hibiscus, hardy - Hibiscus moscheutos \*\* needs regular moisture  
\*Hosta – Hosta spp. (shade only) \*\*  
\*Ice Plant - Delesperma  
\*Iris - Iris spp. \*\*  
Joe Pye - Eupatorium purpureum -needs some soil moisture  
\*Lambs' Ear - Stachys byzantine  
\*Lavender - Lavandula angustifolia -requires well drained soil  
\*Letterman's Ironweed- Vernonia lettermanii 'Iron Butterflies'  
\*Liatris - Liatris spp.  
Liriope - Liriope spp. \*\*  
Maximilian Sunflower – Helianthus maximilianii  
\*Meadow Sage – Salvia nemorosa  
\*Prairie Coneflower/Mexican Hat – Ratibida columnifera  
Monarda/Beebalm – Monarda didyma \*\*  
\*Oriental Poppy - Papaver orientale \*\*  
\* Oriental Oregano– Origanum laevigatum  
\*Penstemon – Penstemon spp.  
\*Peony – Paeonia  
\*Poppy Mallow - Callirhoe involucrate  
Purple Coneflower- Echinacea (many varieties)  
\*Purple prairie-clover– Dalea purpurea  
\*Red Yucca - Hesperaloe parviflora  
\*Russian Sage - Perovskia atriplicifolia  
\*Salvia – Salvia nemorosa  
\*Scutellaria resinosa 'Smoky Hills' -Resinous Skullcap  
\*Sedum - Sedum spp. \*\*  
Spiderwort – Tradescantia tharpaii \*\*  
\*Woolly Yarrow - Achillea tomentosa  
\*Yarrow - Achillea spp.