



## **Landscape Ordinance Reference Information**

### **Why a “tree list”?**

Lexington County’s Landscape Ordinance requires that trees be left or replanted during commercial development. As a general rule, the Ordinance requires the planting/protection of “canopy” trees, which are generally described as large shade trees that will grow to a minimum 30 ft height at maturity. In instances where overhead power lines would restrict the full development of “canopy” trees, and at the Landscape Administrator’s discretion, “under-story” trees may be substituted at a ratio of three under-story trees per one canopy tree.

### **Purpose**

It is the purpose of the Lexington County Landscape Ordinance to encourage the planting of trees that will make a significant contribution over the tree’s life span. The following are trees that, through experience and in discussion with nurseries, landscape architects and landscape contractors, were selected for their ability to thrive in Lexington County’s environment while producing minimal negative impacts.

**For questions regarding specific varieties, growth characteristics and habit, and/or planting specifications please contact the Landscape Administrator or any other local certified ornamental plant professional.**

### **Selected List of Tree Species Suitable For Commercial Sites In Lexington County**

#### **Recommended Canopy Trees**

**(These are trees growing greater than 30 feet in overall height.)**

#### **Common Name**

Shumard Oak  
Laurel Oak  
Live Oak  
Willow Oak  
Cherrybark Oak  
Darlington Oak  
River Birch  
Baldcypress  
Callery Pear  
Lacebark Elm  
Southern Magnolia

#### **Scientific Name**

*Quercus shumardii*  
*Quercus laurifolia*  
*Quercus virginiana*  
*Quercus phellos*  
*Quercus pagoda*  
*Quercus hemisphaerica*  
*Betula nigra*  
*Taxodium distichum*  
*Pyrus calleryana*  
*Ulmus parvifolia*  
*Magnolia grandiflora*

### **Other Acceptable Canopy Trees**

**(These species are site specific and/or dependant on availability.)**

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>
Southern Red Oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>
Overcup Oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
Swamp Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>
Sawtooth Oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Water Oak	<i>Quercus nigra</i>
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Black Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Chinese Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sinensis</i>
Common Persimmon (male)	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>
Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>
Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>
Yellow-Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Deodar Cedar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>
Ginkgo (male)	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
Sweetgum (sterile)	<i>Liquidambar stryaciflua</i>
Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>
Japanese Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>

### **Acceptable Understory Trees**

**(These are trees that grow less than 30 feet in overall height.)**

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>
Crapemyrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Flowering Crabapple	<i>Malus hybrida</i>
Goldenrain Tree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>
Eastern Red Bud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Nellie Stevens Holly	<i>Ilex hybrida</i> "Nellie Stevens"
Yoshino Cherry	<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i>
Kwanzan Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>
Taiwan Cherry	<i>Prunus campuanlata</i>
Japanese Maple	<i>Acer palmatum</i>
Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergerianum</i>
Loblolly-Bay	<i>Gordonia lasianthus</i>
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
Ring-Cupped Oak	<i>Quercus glauca</i>
Red Bay	<i>Persea borbonia</i>