



Lists of Suitable Trees

PURPOSE: The suitable tree species listed under each section are for the purpose of establishing significant trees under the Medina Tree Code (Chapter 20.52 Medina Municipal Code). This list includes trees species eligible towards planting requirements.*

LIST 1: SIGNIFICANT TREE SPECIES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

The following trees are designated as significant tree species pursuant to MMC 20.52.050. List 1 is used in conjunction with the definition of “significant tree” set forth in MMC 20.12.200 to denote the application of the term “significant tree” in the Medina Tree Code (Chapter 20.52 MMC). Please note that not all trees in this list are eligible for credit as supplemental or restoration trees. See List 4 for tree species eligible for supplemental tree or restoration tree credit.

A. EVERGREENS (CONIFERS):

1. All, except the following:

- a. Leyland Cypress – *Cupressocyparis leylandii*
- b. Arborvitae – *Thuja occidentalis*
- c. Italian Cypress - *Cupressus sempervirens*
- d. Blue Surprise Port Orford Cedar – *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* ‘Blue Surprise’
- e. Wissel’s Saguaro False Cypress – *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* ‘Wissels Saquaro’
- f. Other species not listed that typically have a crown diameter of less than 10 feet at maturity
- g. Trees planted, clipped or sheared into use as a hedge regardless of species

Subsection (g) already addresses trees that are sheared or maintained as hedges. However, there are stand-alone Leyland cypresses in Medina that exceed 30 inches in diameter and function as individual trees rather than hedge plantings. These larger specimens can provide meaningful canopy, screening, and ecological value, and may warrant consideration outside of the hedge category. Clarifying this distinction would help ensure that mature, stand-alone Leyland cypresses are evaluated appropriately rather than being grouped with hedges.

B. DECIDUOUS

1. All that coincide with United States Department of Agriculture hardiness zones 8b and 9a, except the following:
 - a. Swedish Aspen – *Populus tremula* “Erecta’
 - b. Skyward Bald Cypress – *Taxodium distichum* ‘Skyward’
 - c. Other species not listed that typically have a crown diameter of less than 10 feet at maturity
 - d. Trees planted, clipped or sheared into use as a hedge regardless of species

Trees identified on the King County Weed of Concern or Class C weed list, while not regulated, are known to be problematic and should also be added to the non-significant tree list. This includes species such as English holly, horse chestnut, Norway maple, European mountain ash, and black locust. All of these species are non-native, are known to naturalize and compete with native trees, and should be discouraged from planting.

<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnpr/nature-recreation/environment-ecology-conservation/noxious-weeds/identification-control/noxious-weeds-list>

* *The list of native trees are those that are naturally occurring and propagating in the Puget Sound lowlands in the last 100 years and coincide with the USDA hardiness zone 8b.*

** *Private property includes state highway right-of-way.*

Note: *The USDA Plant Hardiness Zones helps determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a location. The zones are based on the average annual minimum winter temperature, divided into 10-degree F zones.*

LIST 2: SIGNIFICANT TREE SPECIES ON CITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY

This list shall apply only where a tree is removed from city rights-of-way. It is used to distinguish significant and non-significant trees. Tree species eligible for replacement credit in the city right-of-way are set forth in List 6 and 7.

A. EVERGREENS (CONIFERS) - NATIVE:

- 1. Lawson Cypress – *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*
- 2. Alaska Yellow Cedar – *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*
- 3. Western Red Cedar – *Thuja plicata*
- 4. Douglas Fir – *Pseudotsuga menziesii*
- 5. Engelmann Spruce – *Picea engelmannii*
- 6. Grand Fir – *Abies grandis*
- 7. Pacific Silver Fir – *Abies amabilis*
- 8. Rocky Mountain Juniper – *Juniperus scopulorum*
- 9. Mountain Hemlock – *Tsuga mertensiana*
- 10. Western Hemlock – *Tsuga heterophylla*
- 11. Shore Pine – *Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*
- 12. Sitka Spruce – *Picea sitchensis*
- 13. Western White Pine – *Pinus monticola*

B. EVERGREENS (CONIFERS) – NON-NATIVE:

- 1. None

C. DECIDUOUS - NATIVE:

- 1. Pacific or Western Flowering Dogwood -- *Cornus nuttallii*
- 2. Vine Maple --*Acer circinatum*
- 3. Red Alder --*Alnus rubra*
- 4. Western Hazelnut -- *Corylus cornuta*
- 5. Oregon Ash -- *Fraxinus latifolia*
- 6. Narrow-leaved Cherry – *Prunus emarginata* var. *mollis*
- 7. Western Serviceberry - *Amelanchier alnifolia*
- 8. Black Hawthorn - *Crataegus douglasii*
- 9. Cascara - *Rhamnus purshiana*
- 10. Oregon White Oak - *Quercus garryana*
- 11. Pacific Crabapple - *Malus fusca*
- 12. Pacific Willow - *Salix lasiandra*

D. DECIDUOUS – NON-NATIVE:

- 1. None

This specifically relates to the following code section and implies the City may allow removal of a healthy "non-significant" right-of-way tree:

16.52.200 – City Tree Removals

D. Removal of a city tree located within an open or closed city right-of-way **may** be allowed for the following:

Any tree having less than a ten-inch diameter breast height size; and any trees not included on the "City of Medina Suitable Tree Species List" for the right-of-way having less than a 36-inch diameter breast height size.

Because these trees fall below the size threshold or are not included on the City's suitable species list, they may be considered non-significant and therefore eligible for removal at the City's discretion, even when the tree is otherwise healthy, non-hazardous, and not a nuisance.

Is this distinction necessary?

LIST 3: LEGACY TREE SPECIES LIST

The following trees are Legacy Tree species that if the criteria in MMC 20.52.120 are present are subject to the replacement requirements for a Legacy Tree.

A. EVERGREENS (CONIFERS):

- 1. Lawson Cypress – *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*
- 2. Alaska Yellow Cedar – *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*
- 3. Western Red Cedar – *Thuja plicata*
- 4. Douglas Fir – *Pseudotsuga menziesii*
- 5. Grand Fir – *Abies grandis*
- 6. Mountain Hemlock – *Tsuga mertensiana*
- 7. Western Hemlock – *Tsuga heterophylla*
- 8. Pacific Madrone – *Arbutus menziesii*
- 9. Shore Pine – *Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*
- 10. Western White Pine – *Pinus monticola*
- 11. Sitka Spruce – *Picea sitchensis*

Expand this list to include additional non-native conifer species that are well-suited to the Pacific Northwest and capable of reaching large stature. This could include conifer species such as deodar cedar, Atlas cedar, Lebanese cedar, giant sequoia, coast redwood, dawn redwood, European larch, and ponderosa pine, all of which grow well in the regional climate and are capable of reaching at least 50 inches in diameter under appropriate conditions.

B. DECIDUOUS:

- 1. None

LIST 4: TREE SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR CREDIT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

This list establishes eligibility requirements for receiving supplemental tree unit or restoration credits under MMC 20.52.130 and MMC 20.52.150 respectively. This list is used for determining existing trees that may be included as credit; and new tree plantings on private property that are eligible for credit. The list of native species in Sub-list 4A and 4C apply to determining tree retention requirements in MMC 20.52.110.

A. EVERGREENS (CONIFEROUS) - NATIVE:

- 1. Lawson Cypress – *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*
- 2. Alaska Yellow Cedar – *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*
- 3. Western Red Cedar – *Thuja plicata*
- 4. Douglas Fir – *Pseudotsuga menziesii*
- 5. Engelmann Spruce – *Picea engelmannii*
- 6. Grand Fir – *Abies grandis*
- 7. Pacific Silver Fir – *Abies amabilis*
- 8. Rocky Mountain Juniper – *Juniperus scopulorum*
- ~~9. Mountain Hemlock – *Tsuga mertensiana*~~
- 10. Western Hemlock – *Tsuga heterophylla*
- 11. Shore Pine – *Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*
- 12. Sitka Spruce – *Picea sitchensis*
- 13. Western White Pine – *Pinus monticola*

Exclude small trees from the list 4. Developers tend to favor the first three species, as they are inexpensive and readily available.

Mountain hemlock is a very slow-growing tree with a relatively small canopy.

Dwarf Hinoki cypress is also slow-growing and develops a small canopy.

Vine maple is more of a small, shrubby tree and does not provide substantial canopy cover.

Red alder is a short-lived native and a pioneering species that converts atmospheric nitrogen into plant-available nitrogen in soils. It is common, relatively weak-wooded, and is not typically available in a code-compliant planting size.

Western hazelnut is more accurately characterized as a large shrub than a tree. Also not typically available in code compliant size.

B. EVERGREENS (CONIFEROUS) – NON-NATIVE:

1. Korean Fir – *Abies koreana*
2. Spanish Fir – *Abies pinsapo*
3. White Fir – *Abies concolor*
4. Incense Cedar – *Calocedrus decurrens*
5. Deodar Cedar – *Cedrus deodara*
6. Atlas Cedar – *Cedrus atlantica*
7. Cedar of Lebanon – *Cedrus libani*
8. Moss Cypress – *Chamaecyparis pisifera*
- ~~9. Dwarf Hinoki Cypress – *Chamaecyparis obtusa*~~
10. Smooth-barked Arizona Cypress – *Cupressus glabra*
11. Dawn Redwood – *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
12. Swiss Stone Pine – *Pinus cembra*
13. Austrian Black Pine – *Pinus nigra*
14. Japanese Black Pine – *Pinus thunbergii*
15. Japanese Red Pine – *Pinus densiflora*
16. Japanese Cryptomeria – *Cryptomeria japonica*
17. Serbian Spruce – *Picea omorika*
18. Umbrella Pine – *Sciadopitys verticillata*
19. Bald Cypress – *Taxodium distichum*
20. Hiba Cedar – *Thujopsis dolobrata*
21. Canadian Hemlock – *Tsuga canadensis*

C. DECIDUOUS - NATIVE:

1. Pacific or Western Flowering Dogwood -- *Cornus nuttallii*
- ~~2. Vine Maple -- *Acer circinatum*~~
- ~~3. Red Alder -- *Alnus rubra*~~
- ~~4. Western Hazelnut -- *Corylus cornuta*~~
5. Oregon Ash -- *Fraxinus latifolia*
6. Narrow-leaved Cherry – *Prunus emarginata* var. *mollis*
7. Western Serviceberry - *Amelanchier alnifolia*
8. Black Hawthorn - *Crataegus douglasii*
9. Cascara - *Rhamnus purshiana*
10. Oregon White Oak - *Quercus garryana*
11. Pacific Crabapple - *Malus fusca*
12. Pacific Willow - *Salix lasiandra*

D. DECIDUOUS – NON-NATIVE:

1. None

LIST 5: REPLACEMENT TREE SPECIES FOR CREDIT ON CITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY

The following trees are designated as eligible for receiving replacement credit on the city right-of-way. Trees planted in the rights-of-way shall ensure that sight-distance requirements are maintained and utilities will not become encumbered. If overhead power distribution or transmission lines are within 20 horizontal feet of the planting location, the replacement tree species shall be selected from List 6.

A. EVERGREENS (CONIFERS) - NATIVE:

1. Lawson Cypress – *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*
2. Alaska Yellow Cedar – *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*
3. Western Red Cedar – *Thuja plicata*
4. Douglas Fir – *Pseudotsuga menziesii*
5. Engelmann Spruce – *Picea engelmannii*
6. Grand Fir – *Abies grandis*
7. Pacific Silver Fir – *Abies amabilis*
8. Rocky Mountain Juniper – *Juniperus scopulorum*
9. Mountain Hemlock – *Tsuga mertensiana*
10. Western Hemlock – *Tsuga heterophylla*
11. Shore Pine – *Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*
12. Sitka Spruce – *Picea sitchensis*
13. Western White Pine – *Pinus monticola*

B. EVERGREENS (CONIFERS) – NON-NATIVE:

1. Korean Fir – *Abies koreana*
2. Spanish Fir – *Abies pinsapo*
3. White Fir – *Abies concolor*
4. Incense Cedar – *Calocedrus decurrens*
5. Deodar Cedar – *Cedrus deodara*
6. Atlas Cedar – *Cedrus atlantica*
7. Cedar of Lebanon – *Cedrus libani*
8. Moss Cypress – *Chamaecyparis pisifera*
9. Dwarf Hinoki Cypress – *Chamaecyparis obtusa*
10. Smooth-barked Arizona Cypress – *Cupressus glabra*
11. Dawn Redwood – *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
12. Swiss Stone Pine – *Pinus cembra*
13. Austrian Black Pine – *Pinus nigra*
14. Japanese Black Pine – *Pinus thunbergii*
15. Japanese Red Pine – *Pinus densiflora*
16. Japanese Cryptomeria – *Cryptomeria japonica*
17. Serbian Spruce – *Picea omorika*
18. Umbrella Pine – *Sciadopitys verticillata*
19. Bald Cypress – *Taxodium distichum*
20. Hiba Cedar – *Thujopsis dolabrata*
21. Canadian Hemlock – *Tsuga canadensis*

C. DECIDUOUS - NATIVE:

- 1. Pacific or Western Flowering Dogwood -- *Cornus nuttallii*
- ~~2. Vine Maple -- *Acer circinatum*~~
- ~~3. Red Alder -- *Alnus rubra*~~
- ~~4. Western Hazelnut -- *Corylus cornuta*~~
- 5. Oregon Ash -- *Fraxinus latifolia*
- 6. Narrow-leaved Cherry – *Prunus emarginata* var. *mollis*
- 7. Western Serviceberry - *Amelanchier alnifolia*
- 8. Black Hawthorn - *Crataegus douglasii*
- 9. Cascara - *Rhamnus purshiana*
- 10. Oregon White Oak - *Quercus garryana*
- 11. Pacific Crabapple - *Malus fusca*
- 12. Pacific Willow - *Salix lasiandra*

Exclude the following small trees from the list 5.

Vine maple is more of a small, shrubby tree and does not provide substantial canopy cover.

Red alder

Western hazelnut

D. DECIDUOUS – NON-NATIVE:

- 1. None

LIST 6: TREE SPECIES FOR CREDIT IN RESTRICTED CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY

The tree species in List 7 shall be used for replacement credit in those locations identified as “Restricted R.O.W” in the Medina Landscape Plan set forth in Figure 3 of the Community Design Element of the Medina Comprehensive Plan. The city may accept other tree species not on the list for replacement credit provided the tree is an appropriate species to be planted where overhead utility lines or view corridors necessitate lower tree heights.

LIST 7: LOW-GROWING TREE SPECIES SUITABLE NEAR POWER LINES

The tree species in this list may be used for replacement credit when replacement trees are planted under or within 20 horizontal feet of overhead power distribution and transmission lines. The city may accept non-native tree species in this list and other non-native tree species not on the list for replacement credit provided the tree is an appropriate species to be planted near power lines.

A. EVERGREENS:

- 1. Mugo Pine – *Pinus mugo*
- 2. Tanyosho Pine – *Pinus densiflora* ‘*Umbraculifera*’
- 3. Dwarf Hinoki Cypress – *Chamaecyparis obtusa* ‘*Nana gracilis*’
- 4. Chinese Juniper – *Juniperus chinensis*
- 5. Swiss Stone Pine – *Pinus cembra*
- 6. Japanese Umbrella Pine – *Sciadopitys verticillata*
- 7. Bristlecone Pine – *Pinus aristata*
- 8. Dwarf Japanese Red Pine – *Pinus densiflora* sp

B. DECIDUOUS:

1. Vine Maple – *Acer circinatum*
2. Amur Maple – *Acer ginnala*
3. Rocky Mountain Maple – *Acer grandidentatum*
4. Paperbark Maple – *Acer griseum*
5. Japanese Maple – *Acer palmatum*
6. Pacific Serviceberry – *Amelanchier alnifolia*
7. Western Serviceberry – *Amelanchier grandiflora*
8. Japanese Hornbeam – *Carpinus japonica*
9. Eastern Redbud – *Cercis canadensis*
10. Corneliancherry Dogwood – *Cornus mas*
11. Japanese Dogwood – *Cornus officinalis*
12. European Filbert – *Corylus avellana*
13. Smoketree – *Cotinus* sp.
14. Hawthorn – *Crataegus* sp.
15. Goldenrain Tree – *Koelreuteria paniculata*
16. Galaxy Magnolia – *Magnolia 'Galaxy'*
17. Star Magnolia – *Magnolia stellata*
18. Lily Magnolia – *Magnolia liliiflora*
19. Victoria Southern Magnolia – *Magnolia grandiflora 'Victoria'*
20. Carmine Crabapple -- *Malus x atrosanguinea*
21. Sargent Crabapple – *Malus sargentii*
22. Pink Perfection Crabapple – *Malus 'Pink Perfection'*
23. Radiant Crabapple – *Malus 'Radiant'*
24. Strathmore Crabapple – *Malus 'Strathmore'*
25. Persian Parrotia – *Parrotia persica*
- ~~26. Flowering Cherry/Plum – *Prunus* sp.~~
27. Amur Chokecherry – *Prunus maackii*
28. Mt. Fuji Flowering Cherry – *Prunus serrulata 'Shirotae'*
29. Staghorn Sumac – *Rhus typhina*
30. Red Cascade Mountain Ash – *Sorbus americana 'Dwarf-crown'*
31. Japanese Stewartia – *Stewartia pseuocamellia*
32. Japanese Snowbell – *Styrax japonicus*
33. Japanese Tree Lilac – *Syringa reticulata*

Flowering plum is notoriously difficult to manage under power lines. It readily produces vertical sucker growth along branches and responds aggressively with additional suckering when pruned. It is also a relatively short-lived species that is prone to disease and has relatively weak wood.

SOURCE FOR IDENTIFYING NATIVE SPECIES:

- Kruckerberg, Arthur R. *Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest – an illustrated guide*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1982. Print.
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