

City of Novi

Recommended Planting List

Latin Name	Common Name	Native to MI?	Light Requirement	Moisture Requirement	Salt Tolerant?	Fall Leaf Color	Flower Type	Fruit Type	Mature Height	Mature Width	Growth Rate	Photos	Additional Notes
LARGE DECIDUOUS TREES - Mature Height Greater Than 40 Feet													
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow- Red	Small red-petaled clusters	Paired, winged seeds	40-60'	35-45'	Fast	Click here	Red maple is one of the first trees to flower in the spring, thus it acts as an early nectar source for pollinators.
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow - Red	Small pale yellow clusters	Paired, winged seeds	60-75'	40-50'	Moderate	Click here	The extra sweet sap of the sugar maple is the most common choice for boiling down into maple syrup.
<i>Acer x freemanii</i>	Freeman Maple	Yes	Full sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Orange - Red	Inconspicuous clusters	Paired, winged seeds	40-60'	20-40'	Fast	Click here	This hybrid of silver maple and red maple unites the rapid growth rate of silver maple and the stronger branch attachment of the red maple.
<i>Aesculus flava</i>	Yellow Buckeye	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Orange	Upright yellow clusters	Shiny brown nuts in a smooth husk	60-80'	25-35'	Moderate	Click here	Showy yellow flowers and impressive fall color make this species a popular landscape choice.
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horsechestnut	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	White or red upright clusters	Seed in a prickly husk	50-75'	40-65'	Moderate	Click here	A horsechestnut tree described multiple times in Anne Frank's diary was dubbed "The Anne Frank Tree." The tree fell in a 2010 storm, but 11 of the tree's saplings were recovered and have been planted around the world.
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	Yellow Birch	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow	Green - yellow catkins	Cone-like clusters	60-75'	60-75'	Moderate	Click here	The bark of yellow birch trees peels away just like the more commonly-known paper birch, but yellow birch bark is a silver - bronze color instead of bright white.
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Paper Birch	Yes	Full sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Inconspicuous catkins	Cone-like clusters	50-70'	20-45'	Fast	Click here	The distinct white bark of birch trees provide ornamental interest, but was also used by Indigenous people to create lightweight canoes, baskets, and many other crafts. The bark becomes white on trees after 7-10 years.
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow - Brown	Small green catkins	Large, pear-shaped nuts	50-70'	40-50'	Slow	Click here	Hickory wood is commonly used to make furniture and smoke meats.
<i>Carya glabra</i>	Pignut Hickory	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Dry or moderate soil	No	Gold	Small green catkins	Large, pear-shaped nuts	50-60'	25-35'	Slow	Click here	Hickory nuts are calorie dense and high in fat, so they're a vital resource for wildlife bulking up to survive the winter. Also, its fall color is very bright gold.
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Golden brown	Small green catkins	Large, rounded nuts	60-80'	30-50'	Slow	Click here	The loose, shaggy bark of this tree makes for an interesting appearance and excellent bat roosting habitat.
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry	Yes	Full sun	Moderate or wet soil	Yes	Yellow	Inconspicuous clusters	Small, fleshy drupes	40-60'	40-50'	Fast	Click here	Hackberry trees are the only host plant for the hackberry emperor butterfly, meaning the caterpillars can only feed on hackberry leaves.
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	Persimmon	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow - Red	Small, white, and fragrant	Large, orange berry	35-60'	20-35'	Slow	Click here	Female trees produce edible fruits in late fall, which taste honey-like. However, both male and female persimmon trees need to be planted close together to ensure pollination.
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgo (Male)	No	Full sun	Moderate or wet soil	Yes	Gold	Inconspicuous	Male ginkgo trees don't produce smelly fruit	50-80'	30-40'	Slow	Click here	The ginkgo's fan-shaped leaves are unique today because of its status as a "living fossil." It's remained relatively unchanged for approximately 270 million years and is likely the only extant tree species from that period.
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i>	Thornless Honeylocust	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Gold	Inconspicuous spikes	Large brown pods	30-70'	30-70'	Fast	Click here	Thornless varieties of honeylocust exist because the natural straight species grows sharp thorns about an inch long, which were likely used as a defense against browsing herbivores.
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky Coffeetree	Yes	Full sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Yes	Yellow	Long white clusters	Large leathery pods	60-75'	40-50'	Slow	Click here	Only female trees produce fruit, but the fruits can be roasted, ground, and used as a caffeine-free coffee substitute, hence the common name of this species.
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	Yes	Full sun	Moderate soil	Moderate	Yellow	Inconspicuous clusters	Large nut in green husk	50-75'	30-50'	Moderate	Click here	Black walnut wood is renowned for its strength and resistance to rot, and was oftentimes used to make gunstocks in the Civil War, WWI, and WWII. Now, walnut wood is more often used for cabinetry and luxury furniture.
<i>Larix laricina</i>	Tamarack	Yes	Full sun	Wet soil	Yes	Yellow	Inconspicuous	Small, upright cones	40-80'	30-50'	Fast	Click here	Tamaracks can survive extreme cold (down to around -85 degrees Fahrenheit) and are one of the most common species at the Arctic Tree Line. The tree drops its needles in the fall.
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	No	Full sun	Moderate or wet soil	Yes	Yellow - Red - Purple	Inconspicuous spikes	Round, spiky capsules	60-75'	40-75'	Moderate	Click here	The unique star-shaped leaves of sweetgum trees produce dazzling fall color displays that vary from yellow, to orange, to red, to purple.

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<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tuliptree	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	No	Gold	Large, yellow, and tulip-like	Cluster of winged seeds	70-90'	35-50'	Fast	Click here	A single tuliptree flower can produce a tablespoon of nectar, making this tree a popular choice for pollinators.
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	Dawn Redwood	No	Full sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Yes	Orange - Brown	Inconspicuous	Cones on stalks	70-100'	20-30'	Fast	Click here	Dawn redwoods were long thought to be extinct, until a grove of wild dawn redwoods were found growing in a remote valley in China. They shouldn't be planted in tight spaces or near sidewalks as their roots may cause damage.
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Blackgum	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Moderate	Red	Long white clusters	Small, purple drupes	30-50'	20-30'	Slow	Click here	Blackgum is highly valued as an ornamental tree for its brilliant fall color.
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	American Sycamore	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	Moderate	Brown	Dense clusters on stalks	Dense ball of seeds	75-100'	50-70'	Fast	Click here	The outer bark of sycamore trees naturally sloughs off to reveal the lighter bark below, which creates visually interesting trunk patterns.
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	London Planetree	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow - brown	Green or red clusters on long stalks	Seeds hang in pairs on long stalks	70-100'	65-80'	Fast	Click here	This is a hybrid resulting from a cross between the native American sycamore and non-native Asian planetree, which is more resistant to anthracnose.
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry	Yes	Full sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Yellow - Orange	Small white clusters	Small, purple cherries	50-60'	20-30'	Fast	Click here	Black cherry is prized in the woodworking trade because of its strength, hardness, and rich reddish-brown hue. It will not tolerate shade.
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Red	Green catkins	Small acorns	50-80'	80-100'	Slow	Click here	A 200-year-old white oak in Ohio dubbed the "Shawshank Tree" was made famous and became a tourist attraction when it appeared at the end of the movie "The Shawshank Redemption."
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak	Yes	Full sun	Moderate or wet soil	Moderate	Gold - Orange	Green catkins	Small acorns	50-60'	50-60'	Moderate	Click here	Swamp white oak is far more tolerant of low-lying and wet sites, plus sites with heavy soil, than white oaks.
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak	No	Full sun	Moderate soil	No	Red	Green catkins	Small acorns	40-75'	40-75'	Moderate	Click here	Brilliant red fall color sets scarlet oak apart from many other oaks.
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Shingle Oak	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Yellow - Brown	Green catkins	Small acorns	50-60'	50-60'	Slow	Click here	The leaves of shingle oaks are distinctly unlobed, unlike other oak trees.
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Moderate	Yellow - Brown	Green catkins	Large, fringed acorns	70-80'	70-80'	Slow	Click here	Bur oaks have the largest acorns of any oak species, which are eaten by black bears, turkeys, grouse, and other wildlife.
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinkapin Oak	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow - Orange	Green catkins	Small acorns	50-80'	50-70'	Slow	Click here	Chinkapin oaks grow best in alkaline soils, making them a good substitute for pin oaks if the soil pH is high.
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	Yes	Full sun	Wet soil	No	Red - Brown	Green catkins	Small acorns	60-70'	40-50'	Fast	Click here	Pin oaks are intolerant of alkaline soils, which reduces the tree's ability to take in iron, a micronutrient necessary for growth. This causes chlorosis, which yellows leaves and weakens the tree.
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	Moderate	Red	Green catkins	Small acorns	60-75'	60-75'	Moderate	Click here	Produces high value lumber commonly used for furniture, flooring, interior trim, and more.
<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Shumard Oak	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Yes	Red	Green catkins	Small acorns	40-60'	40-60'	Moderate	Click here	Shumard oak makes for a resilient urban tree because it tolerates pollution and compacted soils well.
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry soil	No	Yellow	Green catkins	Small acorns	50-60'	40-70'	Moderate	Click here	Leaves of the black oak tree growing in full sun tend to have deeper lobes, whereas "shade leaves" lower in the canopy are generally larger with shallower lobe sinuses.
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Common Baldcypress	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Orange - Brown	Inconspicuous	Small cones	50-70'	20-30'	Moderate	Click here	Common baldcypress is a deciduous conifer, meaning it sheds its leaves each year unlike most other cone-bearing species. It also boasts beautiful fall color.
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow	Fragrant yellow clusters	Small nuts	60-80'	30-60'	Moderate	Click here	Basswood is frequently used in the making of guitars and other musical instruments.
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Littleleaf Linden	No	Full sun	Moderate soil	No	Yellow	Fragrant yellow clusters	Small nuts	60-70'	30-40'	Moderate	Click here	Linden flowers are fragrant and are commonly made into teas. They are also a good source of nectar for pollinators.

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<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	Silver Linden	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Fragrant yellow clusters	Small, egg-shaped nuts	50-70'	25-40'	Moderate	Click here	Silvery undersides of leaves appear to shimmer from afar in the wind.
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm (Disease resistant cultivars)	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Inconspicuous	Small, oval samara	60-80'	40-70'	Fast	Click here	Several cultivars of American elm are planted for their resistance to Dutch Elm Disease, which is a disease that swept through Michigan in the 1950s, killing nearly all of the state's American elms.

MEDIUM DECIDUOUS TREES - Mature Height Between 25-40 Feet													
<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	Red Horsechestnut	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	No	Yellow	White or red upright clusters	Seed in a prickly husk	30-40'	30-40'	Moderate	Click here	The tree is a cross between horsechestnut and red buckeye with large flower clusters that vary from pink to red.
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Ohio Buckeye	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Yellow - orange	Large yellow upright clusters	Seed in a prickly husk	20-40'	20-40'	Moderate	Click here	Prosthetic limbs were often made from buckeye tree wood before the advent of synthetic materials.
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch	No	Full sun	Moderate or wet soil	Moderate	Yellow	Inconspicuous catkins	Cone-like clusters	30-40'	20-30'	Fast	Click here	River birch is much more resistant to the native bronze birch borer insect, which can weaken or kill other birch species.
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate soil	No	Red	Large blooms with white or pink petals	Bright red and berry-like	20-40'	15-25'	Slow	Click here	The United States sent 40 flowering dogwood trees to Japan in 1915 as part of an international flower exchange that brought several of Japan's cherry blossom trees to Washington D.C.
<i>Magnolia spp.</i>	Magnolia	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow	Large blooms vary by cultivar	Pink aggregate structure releases seeds	Varies by cultivar	Varies by cultivar	Moderate	Click here	A mild winter season may cause the large, fragrant flowers of the magnolia to bloom well ahead of spring when other plants are still dormant. If followed by a cold snap, the flowers may die off early.
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Ironwood	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow	Inconspicuous catkins	Hops-like clusters	25-40'	15-40'	Slow	Click here	This tree is highly resistant to many pests and diseases and also boasts ornamentally significant fruit, which resembles hops.

SMALL DECIDUOUS TREES - Mature Height Less Than 30 Feet													
<i>Acer griseum</i>	Paperbark Maple	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Yes	Bronze	Inconspicuous catkins	Paired, winged seeds	20-30'	10-30'	Slow	Click here	The distinct peeling bark of the paperbark maple sets this tree apart from other maple species and adds year-round interest.
<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	Serviceberry	Yes	Partial sun or shade	Moderate soil	No	Orange - Red	White clusters	Red and berry-like	10-20'	15-25'	Moderate	Click here	Showy flower blooms in the spring become persistent, flavorful fruit that are highly favorable to birds and can be enjoyed by humans too.
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow	Large dark purple blooms	Large green edible fruit	15-20'	15-20'	Slow	Click here	The pawpaw produces the largest edible fruit native to the United States. It can be eaten raw and tastes somewhat similar to banana or mango.
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow - Orange	Inconspicuous catkins	Yellow clusters contain nuts	20-30'	20-30'	Slow	Click here	This species is also known as "musclewood" because of the unique, sinewy contours of the tree's trunk .
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud	Yes	Partial sun or shade	Moderate soil	No	Yellow	Small pink clusters	Small brown pods	20-30'	25-35'	Moderate	Click here	Bright pink flowers bloom all along the branches of redbud trees before leaves emerge. Redbud trees seven years and older will bloom.
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Pagoda Dogwood	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Red - Purple	Small white flat-topped clusters	Clusters of dark blue berry-like fruits	15-25'	20-30'	Moderate	Click here	Dogwood is both the state tree and state flower of Virginia, and has been celebrated by the state annually since the 1950s with a "Dogwood Festival," featuring parades, carnivals, and more.
<i>Crataegus crus-galli inermis</i>	Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Red - Purple	Small white clusters with strong odor	Large, red and berry-like	20-30'	20-35'	Moderate	Click here	Cockspur hawthorn fruits are "persistent," meaning they're held on the tree through the winter and act as a food source for wildlife when other resources are scant.
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Common Witch-hazel	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Showy and fragrant yellow flowers	Capsules containing small black seeds	15-25'	15-20'	Moderate	Click here	Witch-hazel extract was used by Indigenous populations to treat inflammation and has been adopted for modern medicinal uses as well. They're typically found in oak-hickory forests.
<i>Malus spp.</i>	Flowering Crabapple	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow - Red	Fragrant pink or white clusters	Large, green and apple-like	15-25'	15-25'	Moderate	Click here	Crabapple often serves as the rootstock on which more commonly eaten apple trees are grafted. There are many, many cultivars of crabapple available offering a variety of fruit and flower options, and more.

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<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Chokecherry	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow - Orange	Fragrant, long white clusters	Small, black-red drupe	10-20'	10-20'	Moderate	Click here	The fruits, which have a somewhat bitter and sour taste, were an important food for many Indigenous populations in the U.S. However, the stone of the fruit is toxic.
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Yellow- Red	Yellow clusters	Blue and berry-like	20-30'	25-40'	Moderate	Click here	Sassafras leaves are highly variable. Leaves on the same tree may be oval shaped, mitten shaped, or have two or three lobes--all growing concurrently. This tree is also a host to the spicebush swallowtail butterfly.
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Japanese Tree Lilac	No	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Large and upright white clusters	Small brown capsules	20-30'	15-25'	Moderate	Click here	This species is resistant to many pests and diseases, stands up well to urban conditions, and produces large, showy flowers to boot, though the flowers have an unpleasant smell.

Evergreen Trees

<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate or wet soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Purple - brown cones	50-70'	20-35'	Slow	Click here	The needles of this tree contain vitamin C and were once eaten for medicinal and therapeutic purposes by Indigenous people.
<i>Abies concolor</i>	Concolor Fir	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Upright purple - brown cones	30-50'	15-20'	Moderate	Click here	Popular as live Christmas trees because of their soft needles and ability to retain their needles well even after being cut.
<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	Chinese Juniper	No	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Gray, berry-like cones	50-60'	15-20'	Slow	Click here	This species is a popular choice for bonsai.
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Redcedar	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Gray, berry-like cones	40-50'	10-20'	Moderate	Click here	Eastern redcedars were planted as windbreaks across the plains of the U.S. following the Dust Bowl Drought of the 1930s. They should not be planted near hawthorns, however, as they are co-hosts to cedar apple rust disease.
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Moderate	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Long, purple - brown cones	40-60'	25-30'	Fast	Click here	In 2013, the Norway spruce became the first gymnosperm to have its genome sequenced. It contains approximately 20 billion base pairs and is six times the size of the human genome.
<i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small, green - brown cones	40-60'	10-20'	Slow	Click here	When these trees have been adequately "hardened off" in preparation for the winter, they are extremely cold-tolerant and can survive temperatures down to -70 degrees Fahrenheit.
<i>Picea glauca 'Densata'</i>	Black Hills White Spruce	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small, green - brown cones	20-40'	10-20'	Slow	Click here	This is a variety of white spruce which grows in a more dense, compact form.
<i>Picea omorika</i>	Serbian Spruce	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small, purple - brown cones	50-60'	20-25'	Slow	Click here	The serbian spruce does well growing in clay soils, but does not tolerate road salt.
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Eastern White Pine	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Evergreen	Whorled yellow clusters	Long, slender cones	50-80'	20-40'	Fast	Click here	Eastern white pine is the state tree of Michigan, thanks in large part to its role in the state's prolific lumber industry--especially in the late 19th century.
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas-fir	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Cones with 3-pointed bracts protruding between scales	40-80'	10-20'	Moderate	Click here	Douglas-fir is the most abundant tree by volume in U.S. forests.
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern Arborvitae	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Light brown, oval seed cones	40-50'	10-15'	Moderate	Click here	The largest known eastern arborvitae stands 112 feet tall in Leelanau County, Michigan. There are many cultivars available with different sizes and shapes. Deer love to eat it, however.
<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Green Giant Arborvitae	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Very small brown cones	50-70'	15-25'	Fast	Click here	This cultivar of giant arborvitae is commonly planted as a hedge because it is very deer-resistant and grows in a dense form.
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Eastern Hemlock	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate soil	No	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small hanging cones	40-70'	25-35'	Moderate	Click here	This species is threatened by the invasive hemlock wooly adelgid, which is a sap-sucking insect from Asia capable of killing the trees.

Shrubs

<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	Yes	Red	White clusters	Glossy black; berry-like	3-6'	3-6'	Slow	Click here	The fruit of black chokeberry is edible, though it's generally best enjoyed as part of a jam or syrup. The fresh fruit is somewhat tart. The shrub is also known for its showy fall color.
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<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey Tea	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Cloud-like, white clusters	Triangular capsule	3-4'	3-5'	Slow	Click here	Its name originated during the American Revolution, when this shrub's leaves were dried and steeped as a substitute to imported tea. This shrub is also an excellent source of nectar for butterflies.
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow	White ball-like clusters on long stems	Red ball-like fruit	5-12'	4-8'	Moderate	Click here	Unique pin cushion-like flowers, about the size of a gumball, provide visual interest and support pollinators.
<i>Cornus amomum</i>	Silky Dogwood	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate or wet soil	No	Red - Purple	White clusters	Blue berry-like fruit	6-12'	6-12'	Moderate	Click here	Native dogwood species like <i>C. amomum</i> serve as larval host plants for more than 100 different species of butterfly and moth.
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Red - Purple	Flat, white clusters	Blue berry-like fruit on bright red stalks	10-15'	10-15'	Slow	Click here	This species occasionally hybridizes with silky dogwood (<i>Cornus amomum</i>). Gray dogwood is also a good source of food and cover for birds.
<i>Cornus sericea</i> (aka <i>C. stolonifera</i>)	Red Osier Dogwood	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Red - Purple	Flat, white clusters	Blue berry-like fruit on bright red stalks	6-9'	6-7'	Fast	Click here	This shrub's bright red bark creates sharp contrast against the rest of the winter landscape.
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American Hazelnut	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Salmon	Male flowers showy and yellow; female flowers inconspicuous	Edible hazelnuts enclosed in frilly husks	10-16'	8-12'	Fast	Click here	Both wildlife and humans highly value the tasty and nutritious hazelnuts. The shrub is also known for its good fall color.
<i>Deutzia gracilis</i>	Beautybush	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	No	Brown	Small and fragrant white clusters	Small dried capsules	2-5'	2-5'	Moderate	Click here	This shrub produces beautiful, fragrant flowers, doesn't require much maintenance once established, and grows well in clay soil.
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	Bush Honeysuckle	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Red	Yellow and tubular	Small brown capsule	2-3'	2-4'	Fast	Click here	This native shrub is not to be confused with similarly named but unrelated invasive honeysuckle species, which pose a threat to native ecology. This shrub will spread via suckers.
<i>Hydrangea sp.</i>	Hydrangea	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	No	Red	Large rounded clusters, but color varies	Dry capsules, which may persist in clusters through winter	3-15'	3-10'	Fast	Click here	The characteristics of hydrangea are highly variable depending on the species and/or cultivar planted. They're typically planted for their large, showy blooms.
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Common Winterberry	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	Yes	Yellow - Green	Inconspicuous	Bright red berry-like fruit	6-12'	6-12'	Slow	Click here	Also known as Michigan holly, the common winterberry is one of just two holly species native to Michigan. A ratio of about one male plant for every 10 female plants is needed for the shrub to fruit.
<i>Juniperis communis</i>	Common Juniper	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small purple berry-like cones	5-15'	8-12'	Slow	Click here	The oil extracted from fleshy common juniper cones can be used as a flavoring to make gin.
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	Trailing Juniper	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small blue-tinged berry-like cones	1-2'	5-8'	Slow	Click here	Trailing juniper makes for an excellent low shrub choice and is commonly planted on slopes or trailing over ledges. It's also a good choice near concrete, as it tolerates de-icing salt well.
<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>	Bayberry	No	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Yes	Semi-evergreen	Inconspicuous	Small, blue-gray waxy fruit	5-10'	5-10'	Moderate	Click here	Bayberry is considered "semi-evergreen," as it may retain some leaves in mild winters while still putting out a new flush of leaves in the spring. This shrub is pleasantly fragrant, too.
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Yellow	Large yellow clusters	Bright red drupe clusters	6-12'	6-12'	Moderate	Click here	Spicebush derives its name from its fragrant leaves and stems, which carry a strong smell of allspice when crushed or scraped. Both male and female plants need to be planted near each other for the shrub to fruit.
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Common Ninebark	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	Yes	Yellow - Orange	White clusters with purple stamens	Drooping clusters of capsules	5-8'	4-6'	Moderate	Click here	Several varieties of ninebark exist, which offer different forms, foliage color, and more. However, the straight species found in nature provides the greatest benefits to local wildlife.
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Green - Brown	Large yellow, individual blooms	Small brown capsules	2-4'	3-5'	Moderate	Click here	Showy flowers remain in bloom all through spring and summer. There are cultivars with yellow, white or pink flowers.
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Red	Inconspicuous	Fuzzy red clusters	2-6'	6-10'	Moderate	Click here	Fragrant sumac is so named because its leaves and stems give off a lemony scent when crushed. The "Gro-Low" cultivar only gets to about 30 inches tall and spreads out.
<i>Rhus copallina</i>	Shining Sumac	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Red	Inconspicuous	Large and upright fuzzy red clusters	7-15'	10-20'	Fast	Click here	The somewhat sour fruit can be made into a tart drink similar to lemonade. Shining sumac also has bright red fall color.
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac	Yes	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Red	Large green-yellow clusters	Large and upright fuzzy red clusters	15-25'	20-30'	Fast	Click here	The name staghorn sumac was coined because of the habit and fuzzy surface of the branches, which resemble deer antlers. The shrub has bright red fall color and its fruit acts as a good source of food for birds.

Latin Name	Common Name	Native to MI?	Light Requirement	Moisture Requirement	Salt Tolerant?	Fall Leaf Color	Flower Type	Fruit Type	Mature Height	Mature Width	Growth Rate	Photos	Additional Notes
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow	Yes	Full sun	Moderate or wet soil	No	Green - Yellow	Gray, fuzzy catkins	Clusters of small brown capsules	6-15'	4-12'	Fast	Click here	The fuzzy flowers of pussy willow emerge early in the spring, before the leaves. The unique bare shoot covered in fuzzy flowers is a common addition in early spring decorative bouquets.
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Common Elderberry	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Green - Yellow	Very large, flat-topped white clusters; fragrant	Purple berry-like clusters	5-12'	5-12'	Fast	Click here	Large, fragrant blooms and their resultant fruit can be used to make jellies, jams, or wine.
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Red-berried Elderberry	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Moderate to wet soil	Yes	Red	Large pyramidal-shaped white clusters; fragrant	Bright red berry-like clusters of fruit	8-12'	8-15'	Fast	Click here	The leaves have an unpleasant odor when crushed. This tree blooms much earlier in the year than common elderberry, and has pyramidal-shaped clusters of white flowers, further distinguishing it from common elderberry.
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	American Bladdernut	Yes	Full sun, partial sun, or shade	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Green - Brown	White bell-shaped flowers in clusters	Papery capsules	10-15'	10-20'	Moderate	Click here	The three-chambered, inflated fruit of this shrub may float down bodies of water to aid in dispersal of the plant, which naturally grows around streambanks.
<i>Syringa pubescens</i> 'Miss Kim'	Miss Kim Lilac	No	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Red - Purple	Large and fragrant upright purple clusters	Small warty capsules	4-9'	5-7'	Moderate	Click here	The 'Miss Kim' cultivar blooms later in the year and tends to be more compact than many other lilacs.
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	Common Lilac	No	Full sun	Dry or moderate soil	Yes	Yellow	Large and fragrant upright purple clusters	Small flattened capsules	12-16'	8-12'	Moderate	Click here	During Victorian times, the fragrant flowers of lilac shrubs symbolized the reminder of an old love. It was common for widows to wear lilac flowers for this reason.
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Moderate soil	Yes	Red	White flat-topped clusters	Dark blue berry-like fruits	6-10'	6-10'	Fast	Click here	The strong stems of arrowwood viburnum were used by Indigenous populations to craft arrows, hence the shrub's name.
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry, moderate, or wet soil	No	Red	White flat-topped clusters	Berry-like fruits start orange and mature to blue	14-16'	6-12'	Moderate	Click here	Another common name for this shrub is sweet viburnum, as its fruits are edible and significantly sweeter than those of other viburnums. It also sports bright red fall color.
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw Viburnum	Yes	Full sun or partial sun	Dry or moderate soil	No	Red - Purple	White flat-topped clusters	Dark blue berry-like fruits	12-15'	6-12'	Slow	Click here	Blackhaw viburnum contains salicin, which is a chemical relative of aspirin. Because of this, it was used medicinally by Indigenous populations, oftentimes to help women recover from childbirth.