

25 featured trees

Botanical name	common name	dec/ evg	sm to med	narrow	large	very large	very low H2O	low H2O	mod H2O	high H2O	comments
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Trident maple	dec	x					xx			Grows 3 to 4 feet a year, upright and then somewhat broader. Proving very successful here. Nice but variable fall color.
<i>Acer truncatum</i>	Chinese maple	dec	x					xx			Grows 2 to 3 feet a year, spreading habit. Tolerant of sun. Nice fall color. Good substitute for Japanese maple.
<i>Arbutus x 'Marina'</i>	Marina arbutus	evg	x					xx			Very popular large evg with glossy leaves, beautiful mahogany trunk. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year. Flowers nearly year-around, attractive to hummingbirds. Decorative fruit, but not much litter.
<i>Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca'</i>	Blue Atlas cedar	evg		x			x				Dramatic upright grower with blue-green needles. Very tolerant of drought.
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Deodar cedar	evg				x	x				Huge tree. Grows 3 to 4 feet a year with classic Christmas tree shape. Lower branches spread considerably. Very drought tolerant.
<i>Cercis canadensis var. texensis 'Oklahoma'</i>	Oklahoma redbud	dec	x					xx			Very popular tree with shiny leaves, beautiful magenta spring flowers. Needs careful training when young. Good drought tolerance but also okay with garden watering.
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Desert willow	dec	x				x				Increasingly popular tree native to the southwestern US. Grows 3 to 4 feet a year, upright and then oval crown. Showy flowers all summer attract hummingbirds. There are pink, burgundy, white, and bicolor varieties.
<i>Cotinus coggygria purpurea/Royal Purple</i>	Smoke tree	dec	x					xx			Shrubby, grows big enough to train up as a small tree. Burgundy leaves. Fluffy seed structures are attractive (that's the 'smoke').
<i>Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold'</i>	Autumn Gold ginkgo	dec			x			xx			The most widely planted male cultivar of Ginkgo, selected for spreading growth habit. Grows 18 inches a year, eventually very large. Best with summer irrigation. Disease and pest free. Monitor rigorously for root suckers as they may be female and fruit after many years. Great golden fall color. Other varieties include Saratoga, Fairmount, and Princeton Sentry.
<i>Hesperocyparis (Cupressus) arizonica 'Blue Ice'</i>	Blue Ice Arizona cypress	evg	x				x				Grows 2 to 3 feet a year, classic pyramidal growth habit. Vivid blue-green needles. Very tough, drought tolerant.

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Laurus nobilis	Grecian laurel	evg	x	x				xx			The bay leaf used in cooking. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year, very upright columnar habit. Dioecious tree grown from seed, so half are male and half female. Female trees do set berries and the tree can reseed. Eventually get quite large. Easily pruned for size and shape.
Laurus x 'Saratoga'	Saratoga laurel	evg	x					xx			Interesting hybrid of two species of Laurus. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year, somewhat spreading/round growth habit. Pungent foliage. Male cultivar, no fruit or reseeding. Easily pruned for size and shape.
Olea europaea	Olive	evg	x				x				Shrubby, often trained up as a tree. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year with equal spread to height. Varieties differ in ultimate size. Exceptionally tolerant of heat and drought. Fruit litter is a major nuisance. "Fruitless" types often produce small crops. Many people are allergic to the pollen. Some minor pest problems (borers, scale) that are manageable.
Pistacia chinensis 'Keith Davey'	Pistacia chinensis 'Keith Davey'	dec			x			xx			Male cultivar of Chinese pistache that has consistent bright red fall color. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year, equal spread to height. No fruit or reseeding. Pistache is one of our most common trees, arguably overplanted.
Pistacia 'Red Push'	Red Push Pistache	dec			x			xx			Tree Davis is planting these. Still evaluating this one, but it looks very promising for our area. New hybrid introduction with red flush of new growth in spring, great fall color.
Podocarpus henkelii	yellowwood	evg	x	x				xx			More cold hardy than P. gracilior. Shade tolerant. Upright growth. Very drought tolerant once established.
Prunus x blireiana	flowering plum	dec	x						xxx		The best flowering plum for most uses. Reliably fruitless. Grows about 3 feet a year to 15 to 20 feet. Generally taller than broad, but can be pruned or shaped. Soft pink flowers very early, bloom here with the almonds. Foliage is burgundy red in spring, aging to dark green.
Quercus agrifolia	Coast live oak	evg			x			xx			Grows 2 to 3 feet a year, very shrubby for a decade or so and then achieving considerable size. Very dark green, very dense shade.

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Quercus lobata	Valley oak	dec				x	x				Huge tree. Grows 3 to 4 feet a year with irrigation, 1 to 2 feet per year without. First twenty years grows upright, then it spreads out. Too big for most yards. Concern that it is overplanted locally. Threatened by polyphagous shot-hole borer. Native species.
Quercus shumardii	Shumard red oak	dec				x		xx			Very large oak in the red oak group. Grows 3 to 4 feet a year up and out. 30-year-old tree can be 40 feet tall and wide. Shiny, lustrous leaves turn reddish-brown in fall, then hang on through about the end of December.
Quercus suber	Cork oak	evg			x		x				Widely planted in Davis in the 1940s and 50s. Grows about 3 feet a year with an odd, rounded growth habit when young, eventually forming a dense crown. Typically 30 to 40 feet tall and not quite as wide. Bark is a main feature. Irrigate as little as possible once established.
Ulmus 'Frontier'	Frontier elm	dec				x		xx			Good, tough tree with high light shade. Does get the elm leaf beetle.
Ulmus davidiana 'Morton' ('Accolade')	Accolade elm	dec				x		xx			Grows 2 to 3 feet a year with arching limbs, eventually more than 50 feet tall. Nice yellow fall color. Tolerant of Dutch elm disease, resistant to elm leaf beetle. Prospector elm is very similar.
Vitex agnus-castus	Chaste tree	dec	x					xx			Shrubby. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year to about 12 to 15 feet tall and wide. Easy to prune to keep shorter. Showy blue-violet flowers in summer. May reseed.
Xylosma congesta	Xylosma	evg	x				x				Shrubby. Grows 2 to 3 feet a year to about 15 feet tall and wide, eventually even taller. Easily pruned for size control. Grows big enough to limb up as a graceful tree. Flowers in late fall, very attractive to bees. Very tolerant of heat and drought.
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