

# Iowa's Native Trees and Shrubs

## What is a Native Tree or Shrub?

A **native** tree or shrub species occurs naturally in Iowa. Most landscape plants are grown in other parts of the country and shipped to Iowa every spring.

## Why Plant Natives?

Native trees/shrubs...

- ★ are better adapted to Iowa's extremes in weather and planting sites.
- ★ provide superior habitat for native wildlife.
- ★ evolved with local insect and disease pests, so can resist them better.
- ★ usually are less invasive.
- ★ are a link to Iowa's Heritage.

Look for trees and shrubs native to Iowa the next time you purchase landscape plants.

## Iowa's Native Trees & Shrubs

| Common Name           | Scientific Name               | General locations in Iowa |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| alder, hazel          | <i>Alnus serrulata</i>        | east                      |
| alder, speckled       | <i>Alnus rugosa</i>           | east                      |
| ash, green*           | <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> | statewide                 |
| aspen, bigtooth       | <i>Populus grandidentata</i>  | north                     |
| aspen, quaking*       | <i>Populus tremuloides</i>    | east                      |
| birch, paper*         | <i>Betula papyrifera</i>      | northeast                 |
| birch, river*         | <i>Betula nigra</i>           | statewide                 |
| birch, yellow*        | <i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>  | northeast                 |
| boxelder              | <i>Acer negundo</i>           | statewide                 |
| buckeye, Ohio *       | <i>Aesculus glabra</i>        | east & central            |
| cedar, eastern red    | <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>   | statewide                 |
| cherry, black*        | <i>Prunus serotina</i>        | statewide                 |
| cherry, pin           | <i>Prunus pennsylvanica</i>   | statewide                 |
| chokecherry*          | <i>Prunus virginiana</i>      | statewide                 |
| crabapple, prairie    | <i>Malus spp.</i>             | statewide                 |
| cottonwood*           | <i>Populus deltoids</i>       | statewide                 |
| dogwood, gray *       | <i>Cornus racemosa</i>        | statewide                 |
| dogwood, pagoda *     | <i>Cornus alternifolia</i>    | statewide                 |
| dogwood, rough-leaf   | <i>Cornus drummondii</i>      | statewide                 |
| dogwood, roundleaf    | <i>Cornus rugosa</i>          | statewide                 |
| dogwood, silky*       | <i>Cornus obliqua</i>         | statewide                 |
| elderberry *          | <i>Sambucus canadensis</i>    | statewide                 |
| fir, balsam *         | <i>Abies balsamea</i>         | northeast                 |
| ironwood/hophornbeam* | <i>Ostrya virginiana</i>      | statewide                 |
| hackberry*            | <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>    | statewide                 |
| hickory, bitternut    | <i>Carya cordiformis</i>      | statewide                 |

| Common Name             | Scientific Name              | General locations in Iowa |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| hickory, mockernut      | <i>Carya tomentosa</i>       | southeast                 |
| hickory, pignut         | <i>Carya glabra</i>          | statewide                 |
| hickory, shagbark       | <i>Carya ovata</i>           | statewide                 |
| hickory, shellbark      | <i>Carya laciniosa</i>       | statewide                 |
| hoptree                 | <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>     | statewide                 |
| hornbeam*               | <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>  | statewide                 |
| linden (basswood)       | <i>Tilia americana</i>       | statewide                 |
| locust, honey           | <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> | statewide                 |
| maple, black*           | <i>Acer nigrum</i>           | statewide                 |
| maple, mountain         | <i>Acer spicatum</i>         | northeast                 |
| maple, red*             | <i>Acer rubrum</i>           | northeast                 |
| maple, silver*          | <i>Acer saccharinum</i>      | statewide                 |
| maple, sugar*           | <i>Acer saccharum</i>        | statewide                 |
| mulberry, red           | <i>Morus rubra</i>           | statewide                 |
| pecan*                  | <i>Carya illinoensis</i>     | southeast                 |
| pine, white*            | <i>Pinus strobus</i>         | northeast                 |
| plum, Canada            | <i>Prunus nigra</i>          | statewide                 |
| plum, hortulan          | <i>Prunus hortulana</i>      | statewide                 |
| plum, Mexican           | <i>Prunus mexicana</i>       | statewide                 |
| plum, wild*             | <i>Prunus americana</i>      | statewide                 |
| poplar, balsam          | <i>Populus balsamifera</i>   | statewide                 |
| oak, black*             | <i>Quercus velutina</i>      | statewide                 |
| oak, blackjack          | <i>Quercus marilandica</i>   | southeast                 |
| oak, bur*               | <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>    | statewide                 |
| oak, chinkapin*         | <i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>  | east                      |
| oak, dwarf chinkapin    | <i>Quercus prinoides</i>     | southeast                 |
| oak, northern pin *     | <i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i> | north                     |
| oak, pin *              | <i>Quercus palustris</i>     | statewide                 |
| oak, post               | <i>Quercus stellata</i>      | southeast                 |
| oak, red*               | <i>Quercus rubra</i>         | statewide                 |
| oak, shingle*           | <i>Quercus imbricaria</i>    | south                     |
| oak, swamp white*       | <i>Quercus bicolor</i>       | east                      |
| oak, white*             | <i>Quercus alba</i>          | statewide                 |
| pawpaw, common          | <i>Asimina triloba</i>       | south                     |
| redbud, eastern *       | <i>Cercis Canadensis</i>     | south                     |
| serviceberry, downy     | <i>Amelanchier arborea</i>   | statewide                 |
| serviceberry, inland    | <i>Amelanchier interior</i>  | statewide                 |
| serviceberry, roundleaf | <i>Amelanchier sanguinea</i> | statewide                 |
| serviceberry, saskatoon | <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> | statewide                 |
| sumac, smooth*          | <i>Rhus glabra</i>           | statewide                 |
| sumac, staghorn*        | <i>Rhus typhina</i>          | statewide                 |
| sycamore*               | <i>Platanus occidentalis</i> | south                     |
| walnut, black           | <i>Juglans nigra</i>         | statewide                 |

\* available commercially