

Wisconsin Native Trees and Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name	Moisture Preferences	Light Exposure	Mature Height (feet)	Notes	Wildlife
Balsam fir	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	w,m,m	Full sun - Full Shade	40 - 75	Fragrant Evergreen	Grouse, deer, moose, porcupine, game birds, mice
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	w,w,m,m	Full sun - Part sun	40 - 60	Fast growing	Game birds, squirrel, chipmunk, beaver, deer, bear
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	w,w,m	Full sun - Part sun	75 - 100	Fast growing, weak wood, shallow roots	Songbirds, deer, racoon, waterfowl, squirrel
Speckled alder	<i>Alnus incana</i>	w,w,m	Full sun - Part sun	15 - 30	Soil stabilizer, neutral to acid conditions, fixes nitrogen	Rabbit, moose, muskrat, grouse, beaver
American Green alder	<i>Alnus viridis</i>	w,w,m,m	Full sun - Part sun	15 - 30	Common on northern lakeshores	Beaver, deer, game birds, songbirds
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	w,m,m,d,m,d	Full sun - Full Shade	20 - 30	White flowers - April - May An excellent landscape tree	Game birds, grouse, skunk, fox, racoon
Smooth juneberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	w,m,m,d,m,d	Full sun - Full Shade	20 - 30	White flowers - May Orange fall color Excellent landscape plant	Birds, bear, squirrel, chipmunk, deer, moose
Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	m,d,m,d	Full sun	1-3	Blue flowers, May - August; takes 2-3 yrs for transplants to mature; does very well on dry sandy sites	Butterflies and Bees
Indigobush; False indigo	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	w,w,m,m	Full sun - Full Shade	6 - 12	Violet flowers - May - June Best grown in thicket - not very showy	Birds, small mammals
Bog rosemary	<i>Andromeda glaucophylla</i>	w,w,m	Full sun	1 - 1.5	Pinkish flowers - May - June Broadleaf evergreen, found in Bogs	Birds, voles
Black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	w,w,m,m,d,m,d	Full sun - Full Shade	3 - 6	**White flowers - May Red fall color, Colonial, may be aggressive	Game birds, grouse, deer, bear, songbirds, rabbit
Yellow birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	w,w,m,m	Full sun - Part sun	60 - 80	Useful in large spaces	Game birds, moose, deer, beaver, squirrel

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River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	w, wm,m,dm,d	Full sun	50 - 70	Golden-yellow fall color, Bronze exfoliating bark	Songbirds,moose, hare
Paper birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	40	Yellow fall color, Prefers cool soil, shallow roots	Songbirds,moose, hare
Bog birch	<i>Betula pumila</i>	w - wm	Full sun - Part sun	6	Acid conditions, found in bogs	Songbirds,moose,hare, porcupine
American hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	20 - 30	Yellow, red, orange fall color Beautiful understory tree	Game birds, deer,rabbit,squirrel
New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	dm - d	Full sun - Part sun	2-3	White flowers - July Taprooted, do not try to transplant; fragrant	Butterflies,hummingbird,turkey,rabbit,deer
American bittersweet (See Note 4)	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	20 +	Orange red fruits in fall poisonous vine	Songbirds,gamebirds, rabbit,squirrel
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	60 - 100	Yellow fall color; corky bark Edible fruits; a medium to fast growing, long-lived tree	Game birds, squirrel,raccoon, songbirds,deer
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	w,wm	Full sun - Part sun	6 - 12	White flowers - August Withstands seasonal inundation	Hummingbirds,deer, duck,birds,beaver
Leather-leaf	<i>Chamaedaphne calyculata</i>	w,wm	Full sun	1 - 4	White flowers - April - June Acidic soil; broadleaf evergreen, pond margins; forms thickets	Grouse,hare,deer, moose,moths
Silky dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	w,wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	6 - 12	Yellow-white flowers - June Not showy; use in mass plantings	Songbirds,deer,bear, skunk,squirrel,mice

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Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	w,wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	0.2 - 0.6	White flowers - May - July;red berries; acidic soils; attractive low ground cover	Songbirds,gamebirds
Red-osier dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea (stolonifera)</i>	w,wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	6 - 12	**White flowers-May - June;red twigs - winter Can be aggressive	Songbirds,gamebirds, deer,beaver,rabbit
American hazel	<i>Corylus americana</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Part sun-Full shade	8 - 15	**Yellow fall color;edible nuts Can form dense thickets; soil stablizer	Chipmunk,squirrel,jays, grouse,racoon
White ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	wm,m	Full sun	60 - 75	Burgundy-orange fall color	Songbirds,squirrel, turkey,mice,deer
Black ash	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	w,wm,m,dm	Full sun	50 - 75	Golden-yellow fall color Found in swamps	Wood duck,birds,deer
Green ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	w,wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	50 - 75	Yellow fall color Fast growing;weak wood	Wood duck,birds,deer,mice, beaver
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	w,wm,m,dm,d	Part sun - Full Shade	3 - 12	Red berries-fall & winter, Yellow fall color Acidic soil;male/female shrub;poisonous; persistant fruit	Birds,deer,squirrel,bear,m ice,racoon
Common juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	dm - d	Full sun	1.5 - 6	Evergreen;great on hot, dry slopes	Game birds,deer,moose, songbirds
Tamarack	<i>Larix laricina</i>	w,wm,m	Full sun	40 -80	Yellow fall color;Neutal to acid conditions;deciduous;needle-leaved tree	Grouse,deer,porcupine, hare,squirrel,grouse
Labrador Tea	<i>Ledum groenlandicum</i>	w,wm	Full sun-Part sun	1-4	White flowers-May-June;Acidic conditions;broadleaf evergreen	Deer, moose, game birds

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Ironwood	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Part sun	35 - 60	Yellow fall color;dry leaves persist in winter;common understory tree	Grouse,deer,rabbit, game birds,squirrel
Common ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	dm - d	Full sun	5 - 10	Upright spreading shrub with stiffly arched branches	Ruffed grouse, songbirds, nesting birds, small mammals
White spruce	<i>Picea glauca</i>	wm - m	Full sun	40 - 75	Evergreen;Pyramidal habit	Squirrel,songbirds, deer,chipmunk
Black spruce	<i>Picea mariana</i>	w,wm	Full sun - Full Shade	30 - 70	Evergreen;grows in sphagnum bogs;acidic soils	Squirrel,porcupine, chipmunk,deer, songbirds
Red pine	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	120	Evergreen;fast-growing	Squirrel,porcupine, chipmunk,deer, songbirds
White pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	210	Evergreen;Fast-growing	Squirrel,gamebirds, chipmunk,deer, songbirds
Wild plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	dm,d	Full sun	10 - 15	Fragrant spring bloom; forms a tall thicket;excellent wildlife plant	Songbirds,deer, chipmunk,bees,small mammals
Pin cherry	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	10 - 30	White flowers-May; Yellow-red fall color;colonial; beautiful winter silhouette;fruit used in jellies	Deer,rabbit,moose, bear,chipmunk
Black cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	75	White flowers-May; Yellow-red fall color;edible fruits	Raccoon,songbirds, gamebirds,hare,mice
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	30	White flowers - May; red fall color; edible fruits; fragrant flowers	Squirrel,songbirds, skunk
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	60 - 80	Purplish-red fall color; prized hardwood	Porcupine,raccoon, gamebirds
Swamp white oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	w,wm,m	Full sun - Part sun	75 - 100	Poor fall color, easily transplanted	Wood duck, songbirds,squirrel, deer

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Northern pin oak	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	50 - 75	Holds leaves in winter; excellent for dry sandy sites	Songbirds,fox,bear, rabbit,hare
Bur oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun	70 - 80	Corky bark; yellow-brown fall color; this majestic native tree should be planted more often	Chipmunk,moths,mice, beaver,gopher
Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	150	Red-brown fall color, fast-growing susceptible to oak wilt	Waterfowl, turkey, muskrat
Black currant	<i>Ribes americanum</i>	wm,m	Full sun	4	Yellow or white flowers- April-June; Not prickly;do not plant near white pine	
Common blackberry	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	1.5-7	White flowers, May- June;edible fruits;plant in out of the way places	Bear,deer,rabbit,game birds, turtles,songbirds,fox
Black raspberry (Black-cap)	<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	wm,m	Full sun-Part sun	6	White flowers, May- June;edible fruits;plant in out of the way places	Bear,deer,rabbit,game birds,songbirds,fox
Pussy willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>	w,wm	Full sun	15 - 20	**Pussy willow branches in spring;Bank soil stabilizer; many different types - Check scientific name!	Deer, rabbit, grouse, moose, beaver, birds
Sandbar willow	<i>Salix exigua</i>	w,wm	Full sun	4.5 - 9	**Narrow leaves, deep green;Spreads by rhizomes;easily transplanted - Check scientific name!	Muskrat, porcupine, beaver, deer squirrel

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Prairie willow	<i>Salix humilis</i>	w,wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	3 - 9	**Dull yellow fall color; Suitable for wide range of habitats; Check Scientific name!	Muskrat, porcupine, beaver, game birds
Black willow	<i>Salix nigra</i>	w,wm	Full sun-Part sun	35 - 50	Many different types-Check Scientific name! Yellow fall color; Thrives in wet lakeshore soils.	Game birds, squirrel, birds, rabbit
Common elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	w,wm,m,dm	Full sun - Full Shade	3 - 12	White fragrant flowers-June-July; dark berry clusters, spreads by rhizomes; easy to transplant; edible fruit	Song birds, game birds, deer, mice, insects, chipmunk
Red-berried elder	<i>Sambucus pubens</i>	wm - m	Part sun - Full Shade	8 - 10	White flowers - May - June; red fruits-summer; flowers and ripe fruit edible; all other parts poisonous	Song birds, game birds, insects, rabbit, squirrel, moose
Meadowsweet	<i>Spiraea alba</i>	w,wm	Full sun - Part sun	2 - 5	White flowers-July-Sept; Orange fall color; fragrant; use to prevent erosion at waters edge	Deer, song birds, butterflies, moth, insects
Steeplebush	<i>Spiraea tomentosa var. rosea</i>	w - wm	Full sun - Part sun	4	Pink flowers - July; fragrant; use to prevent erosion at waters edge	Song birds, game birds, waterfowl, small mammals
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	dm - d	Part sun - Full Shade	3 - 6	Pink flowers; white fruit-Sept-Nov; forms extensive colonies	Song birds, upland game birds, small/large mammals
Northern white cedar (Eastern arbutus)	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	w,wm,m	Full sun - Part sun	40 - 60	Evergreen; fibrous exfoliating bark; great screening tree	Deer, moose, rabbit, red squirrel, song birds

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Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	wm,m	Full sun - Part sun	60 - 100	Fragrant flowers-June;yellow fall color;rapid growing shade tree	Bees, squirrel,chipmunk, deer, mice
Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	wm,m	Full sun - Full Shade	75	Evergreen,pendulous branches;acidic soils;shallow-rooted;requires cool soils	Song birds, deer, squirrel,chipmunk, moose
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium augustifolium</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Part sun	0.5 - 2	Cream flowers-June;Orange-red fall color;edible fruit in late summer;nice landscape shrub	Bear, muskrat, skunk, deer, game birds, song birds, fox
Canada Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>	m,dm,d	Full sun-Part sun	0.3 - 3	Prefers acidic soil, begins fruiting in third year	Deer,rabbit,upland game birds, song birds, mammals
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	wm,m	Full sun - Full Shade	15 - 35	Black fruit;purple-red fall color;many attributes;edible fruit	Song birds, game birds, small mammals, beaver
High-bush cranberry	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	w,w,m,m	Full sun - Part sun	6 - 16	red fruit holds through winter;fruit can be made into jelly	Birds, mammals, grouse,pheasant
Downy arrowwood	<i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i>	wm,m,dm,d	Full sun - Full Shade	3 - 6	Maroon-purple fall color;many attributes	Grouse, songbirds, chipmunk, bear, fox, insects

Notes:

1. Moisture Preferences: w = wet, wm = wet-mesic, m = mesic, dm = dry mesic, d = dry
2. Exposure: Full Sun = at least 8 hours per day, Part-Sun = at least 4 hours per day, Shade = no direct sun
3. Always order by scientific name.
4. Caution: American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*) is a great native; **Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) is an invasive species that has been restricted in Wisconsin (NR40) and therefore is illegal to plant.**