

## Woody Trees, Shrubs and Vines For Minnesota's Cold Hardy Zones 2 and 3

This list should by no means be considered exhaustive. If there are cultivated varieties or species that are known to perform well in northern Minnesota, consider them as you put together your plant palette.

Plant names followed by an \* represent plants native to the upper Midwest.

### Deciduous Trees

Scientific Name	Common Name	Size
<i>Acer negundo</i> *	Boxelder Maple	Medium
<i>Acer rubrum</i> *	Red Maple	Large
<i>Acer saccharinum</i> *	Silver Maple	Large
<i>Acer saccharum</i> *	Sugar Maple	Large
<i>Acer triflorum</i>	3-Flowered Maple	Small-Med
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Ohio Buckeye	Medium
<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>	'Autumn Brilliance' Serviceberry	Small
<i>Betula lenta</i> *	Sweet Birch	Medium
<i>Betula nigra</i> *	River Birch	Medium
<i>Betula papyrifera</i> *	Paper Birch	Medium
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Weeping Cutleaf Birch	Medium
<i>Betula platyphylla</i>	'Dakota Pinnacle' Birch	Medium and narrow
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> *	Blue Beech	Small
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> *	Hackberry	Large
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i> *	Pagoda Dogwood	Small
<i>Crataegus species</i>	'Snowbird' Hawthorn	Small
<i>Fraxinus mandshurica</i>	Manchurian Ash	Medium
<i>Larix laricina</i> *	American Larch	Large
<i>Macckia amurensis</i>	Amur Maackia	Small-Med
<i>Malus species</i>	Flowering Crabapples	Small-Med
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i> *	Ironwood	Medium
<i>Phellodendron amurensis</i>	Amur Corktree...only purchase and plant male varieties	Medium
<i>Populus balsamifera</i> *	Balsam Poplar	Medium
<i>Populus grandidentata</i> *	Big-toothed Aspen	Large

Populus deltoides*	Eastern Cottonwood...only plant male trees to avoid seed	Large
Prunus maackii	Amur Chokecherry	Small
Prunus pennsylvanica*	Pin Cherry	Small-Med
Prunus serotina*	Black Cherry	Large
Quercus alba*	White Oak	Large
Quercus ellipsoidalis*	Northern Pin Oak	Large
Quercus macrocarpa*	Bur Oak...NOT Burr Oak	Large
Quercus rubra*	Northern Red Oak	Large
Quercus x bimundorum	'Prairie Stature' Oak	Large
Salix species	'Prairie Cascade' Willow	Med-Large
Salix pentandra*	Laurel Willow	Med-Large
Sorbus aucuparia	European Mountain-ash	Small
Sorbus decora*	Showy Mountain-ash	Small
Syringa reticulata	Japanese Tree Lilac	Small
Tilia americana*	Basswood – 'Redmond' and 'Boulevard' are good urban varieties	Large
Tilia x mongolica	'Harvest Gold' Basswood	Large
Ulmus americana*	'Prairie Expedition' American Elm	Large
Ulmus japonica	'Discovery' Elm	Medium

Most deciduous trees perform best in well-drained soils, organic, neutral to acidic, not compacted, full sun to moderate levels of shade. Therefore, just because a tree is cold-hardy to an area doesn't mean it will perform well. Assess the planting site thoroughly and select the best plants for the site carefully.

### Evergreen Trees

Scientific Name	Common Name	Size
Abies balsamea*	Balsam Fir	Large
Juniperus virginiana*	Eastern Red Cedar	Small-Med
Picea abies	Norway Spruce	Large
Picea glauca*	White Spruce	Large
Picea mariana*	Black Spruce	Medium
Picea pungens*	Colorado Spruce	Large

<i>Pinus banksiana</i> *	Jack Pine	Medium
<i>Pinus cembra</i>	Swiss Stone Pine	Small
<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Ponderosa Pine	Large
<i>Pinus resinosa</i> *	Red/Norway Pine	Large
<i>Pinus strobus</i> *	Eastern White Pine	Large
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Northern White Cedar	Small-Medium
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Hemlock	Medium

Evergreen trees are generally much slower growing than deciduous trees, require regular watering through late autumn to help them establish after planting, and are usually purchased as containerized trees or balled-and-burlapped, which often makes them more expensive than deciduous trees. With the exception of Hemlock, Northern White Cedar, White Pine and Balsam Fir, evergreen trees perform poorly in shaded landscapes.

**Small, Medium, Large? It's all relative.**

A small tree is one that usually doesn't grow any taller than around 30 feet. A medium tree matures up to 50 feet. A large tree reliably grows up to more than 50 feet.

A small shrub stays less than 3 feet in height. A medium shrub can grow up to around 6 feet in height. A large shrub reliably matures at 6 or more feet in height.

**Shrubs (deciduous unless noted)**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Size
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> *	Serviceberry	Medium
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> *	Black Chokeberry	Small-Med
<i>Cornus sericea</i> *(aka <i>stolonifera</i> )	Red-twig Dogwood	Small-Med depending on varieties
<i>Dirca palustris</i> *	Leatherwood	Small
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i> *	Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle	Small
<i>Forsythia</i> species	'Meadowlark' and 'Northern Gold'	Medium-Large
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Wild Hydrangea	Medium
<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>	'P.G. Hydrangea'	Large

<i>Ilex verticillata</i> *	Winterberry Holly	Medium
<i>Juniperus communis</i> *	Common Juniper	Small-Medium Evergreen
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> *	Common Ninebark	Large
<i>Pinus mugo</i>	Mugo Pine	Medium-Large Evergreen
<i>Prunus tomentosa</i> *	Nanking Cherry	Medium
<i>Rhus glabra</i> *	Smooth Sumac	Large
<i>Rhus typhina</i> *	Staghorn Sumac	Large
<i>Salix discolor</i> *	Pussy Willow	Medium-Large
<i>Syringa patula</i>	'Miss Kim' Lilac	Medium-Large
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i> *	Common Lilac	Large
<i>Syringa x prestoniae</i>	'James Macfarlane' and 'Nocturne'	Large
<i>Syringa x meyerii</i>	'Tinkerbelle'	Small-Medium
<i>Viburnum lantana</i> *	Wayfaring Tree	Large
<i>Viburnum lentago</i> *	Nannyberry Viburnum	Large
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i> *	American Cranberrybush	Large
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> *	Blackhaw Viburnum	Large
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	European Cranberrybush	Medium-Large
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> *	Arrowwood Viburnum	Medium

### Woody Deciduous Vines

Scientific Name	Common Name	Growth Rate
<i>Celastrus scandens</i> *	American Bittersweet	Moderate. Make sure you get American bittersweet, not Oriental Bittersweet which is very invasive.
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgins Bower Clematis	Moderate-Fast
<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	Common Hop Vine	Fast-Moderate
<i>Lonicera x brownie</i>	Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle	Moderate
<i>Parthenocissus inserta</i> *	Woodbine	Fast

Vitis riparia	Riverbank Grape	Too Fast...be careful where you plant this very aggressive vine.
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