

Tree Descriptions

SHRUBS

Black Chokeberry 'McKenzie' (*Aronia melanocarpa*) NRCS Selection. Attractive white flowers, glossy foliage, and black berries. Edible fruit attracts birds. Excellent fall color.

Buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*) Native. Suckers to form colony. High pH and drought tolerant. Attractive silver leaves. Red fruit can be used for jelly. Good for wildlife.

Cherry, Nanking (*Prunus tomentosa*) Introduced from China and Japan. Showy flowers and sweet red fruit. Good for jelly. Plants may be renewed by cutting to ground. Good for wildlife.

Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*) Native. Will form colony. Produces white flowers and tart red to black fruit. Good for jelly or winemaking. Excellent for wildlife. Needs well-drained soil.

Cranberry, Highbush (*Viburnum opulus*) - Native in the Black Hills, northeast South Dakota and Europe. Attractive white flowers and red fruit. Excellent fall color. Fruit could be used for jelly. Prefers moist soil but adaptable to various soil conditions.

Currant, American Black (*Ribes americanum*) Native. Small shrub which grows in moist shaded flood plains and occasionally in open areas. Not defoliated by leafspot like Golden Currant. Edible fruits used by birds and animals.

Dogwood, Redosier (*Cornus sericea*) Native. Grows along streams, lakes, etc. Fast growing on cultivated sites. Red stems are attractive in winter. White flowers and fruit. Attracts songbirds. Excellent riparian plant. See Photo Below.

Elderberry, Common (*Sambucus canadensis*) Native in eastern South Dakota. Produces showy white flowers and edible purple fruit which attract birds. Grows best in moist, rich soil along the edge of a woods or stream bank. Plants can be short-lived but will resprout from roots.

Hazelnut, American (*Corylus americana*) Native. A colony forming shrub. Grows in dry or moist areas. Forms thickets at the edges of woods. Produces edible nuts used in cooking or eaten raw. Excellent squirrel and small mammal food.

Juneberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) Native. White flowers. Edible dry purple fruit similar to blueberries. Fruit relished by birds and humans.

Lilac, Common (*Syringa vulgaris*) Introduced from southeastern Europe. Fragrant flowers usually purple and sometimes white, blue, or red. Hardy and adaptable. Suckers to form colony.

Plum, American (*Prunus americana*) Native. Fast growing. Fragrant white flowers in spring. Edible fruit makes good jam. Adaptable.

Plum, 'Prairie Red' (*Prunus sp.*) NRCS selection. Formerly ND-1134. Originally selected from plants in S.D. Produces large, tasty, red to yellow fruit up to 1.25 inches diameter. Similar growth habit and adaptation as American Plum, but much better fruit quality and size. See photo below.

Silverberry (*Elaeagnus commutata*) Native. Suckering shrub with silvery leaves and fragrant flowers. Tolerates drought, high pH, and saline soils. Will grow in sandy and gravelly soils. Intolerant of waterlogged soils.

Viburnum, Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*) Native. Shiny leaves, white flowers followed by black fruit containing a single flat seed. Excellent fall color. Can be trained to a single-stemmed small tree.

Willow, Diamond (*Salix rigida*) Native. Large, broad shrub with multiple stems to 15 feet tall. New leaves usually reddish. Inhabits stream banks and moist meadows. Good riparian plant. Intolerant of high soil salts and high pH. Harmless 'pine cone' galls often present on branches.

MEDIUM TREES

Apricot (*Prunus armeniaca* var. *mandshurica*) Introduced from Manchuria and Korea. Pink flowers subject to frost. May produce edible fruit 2 out of 5 years. Good fall color. Won't tolerate waterlogged soil.

Crabapple, 'Midwest' Manchurian (*Malus baccata* var. *mandshurica* 'Midwest') NRCS selection. Introduced from Japan and China. Showy white flowers. Small red fruit (1/4 to 1/2") are held on tree until eaten by birds. Excellent wildlife tree.

Willow, Laurel (*Salix pentandra*) Introduced from Europe. Beautiful glossy green leaves. Tolerates moist soils. Not drought tolerant.

LARGE TREES

Ash, Green (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) Native, Fast-growing. Yellow fall color. May produce heavy seed crop. High pH and drought tolerant.

Cherry, Black – (*Prunus serotina*) Native in forests in Eastern U.S. Fast growing tree produces attractive white flowers and dark fruit. Fruit makes syrup and drinks. Attracts songbirds. Valuable wood.

Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) Native. Extremely drought tolerant and adaptable. Very long-lived. Excellent shade tree. Produces purplish brown fruit which are eaten by birds. Similar to American elm in appearance.

Honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) Native in far southeast South Dakota. Tough and adaptable. May produce long brown seed pods. Fine lacey leaves. May produce thorns.

Linden, American (Basswood) (*Tilia americana*) Native to eastern SD. Attractive fragrant white flowers in June. Prefers moist well-drained soil. Adapts to wide range of soil moisture and pH conditions. Honey derived from flowers is excellent. See Photo Below.

Maple, Silver (*Acer saccharinum*) Native in southeast South Dakota. Prefers moist soil. Fast growing. Brittle wood. Can have good yellow fall color. Can produce heavy crops of “helicopter” type seeds in early summer.

Mountain Ash, Korean (*Sorbus alnifolia*) Introduced from northeastern Asia. White spring flowers, red or orange fruit. Bird food. Leaves simple, not pinnate like other Mountain Ash. Less susceptible to borers than other Mountain Ash. Prefers moist well-drained soil.

Oak, Bur (*Quercus macrocarpa*) Native. Extremely tough, drought tolerant tree. Long-lived. Acorns provide wildlife food.

Walnut, Black (*Juglans nigra*) Native in southeast South Dakota. Valuable lumber tree. Edible nuts. Attracts wildlife. Grows best in deep, moist soils.

CONIFERS

Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) - Medium tree. Conifer. Native. Very drought tolerant. Has reddish brown to purple winter coloration. Produces inedible blue fruit. Excellent wildlife plant.

Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) - Large tree. Conifer. Native. Fast growing once established. Good wildlife plant. Drought tolerant. Intolerant of wet soils.

Scotch Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) - Large tree. Conifer. Introduced from Europe and Asia. Attractive peeling orange bark on older trees. Drought tolerant. Popular Christmas tree. Fast growing. Needles may temporarily turn yellow in winter. See photo below.

Black Hills Spruce (*Picea glauca var. densata*) - Large tree. Conifer. Native. A geographical strain of white spruce. State tree of South Dakota. Very ornamental. Dense growth habit. Drought and alkaline tolerant. Cones attract songbirds in winter.

Colorado Spruce (*Picea pungens*) - Large tree. Conifer. Native in Rocky Mountain states. Needles blue or green. Very ornamental.

Meyer Spruce (*Picea meyeri*) - Introduced from northern China and Inner Mongolia (a grassland region of P.R. of China). Size and coloration similar to Colorado Spruce. More drought tolerant than Colorado Spruce. Appears to have less insect/disease trouble than Colorado Spruce. Slower grower in early years, but once established, growth rate is similar to Colorado Spruce.

Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) - Large tree. Conifer. Native to Europe. Green needles. Large cones. Ascending branches with drooping branchlets.



Red Osier Dogwood



American Linden



Prairie Red Plum



Buffaloberry



Scotch Pine