

# MONMOUTH BEACH TREE ORDER

## 2023 SPECIES OVERVIEW

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### Questions?

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## SPECIES SELECTION KEY

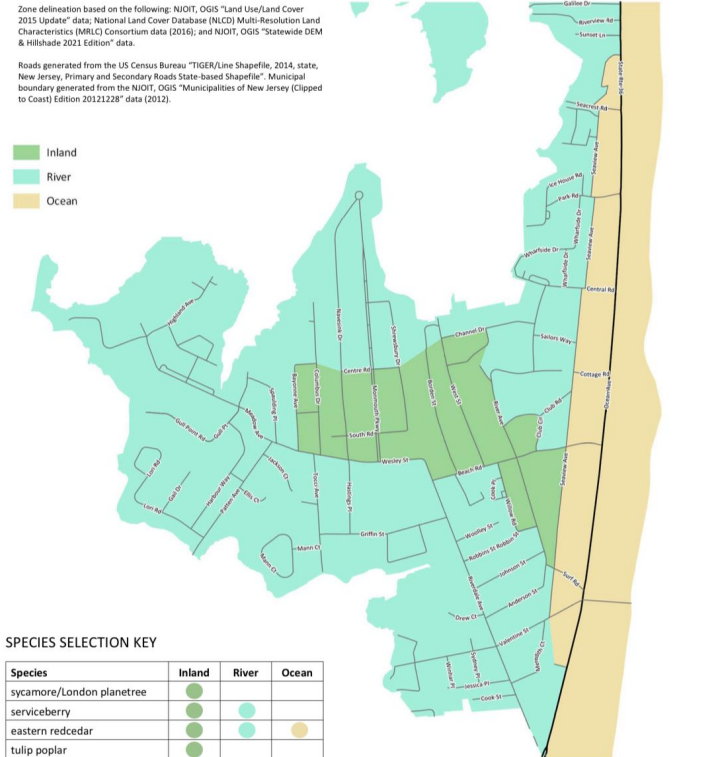
Species	Inland	River	Ocean
sycamore/London planetree	●		
serviceberry	●	●	
eastern redcedar	●	●	●
tulip poplar	●		
river birch	●		
willow oak	●	●	

## MONMOUTH BEACH, NJ: URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT ZONES

Zone delineation based on the following: NJOIT, OGIS "Land Use/Land Cover 2015 Update" data; National Land Cover Database (NLCD) Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium data (2016); and NJOIT, OGIS "Statewide DEM & Hillshade 2021 Edition" data.

Roads generated from the US Census Bureau "TIGER/Line Shapefile, 2014, state, New Jersey, Primary and Secondary Roads State-based Shapefile". Municipal boundary generated from the NJOIT, OGIS "Municipalities of New Jersey (Clipped to Coast) Edition 20121228" data (2012).

■ Inland  
■ River  
■ Ocean



### SPECIES SELECTION KEY


Species	Inland	River	Ocean
sycamore/London planetree	●		
serviceberry	●	●	
eastern redcedar	●	●	●
tulip poplar	●		
river birch	●		
willow oak	●	●	
black gum	●	●	

# SYCAMORE / LONDON PLANE



## London Planetree

*Platanus x acerifolia*

 Hardiness Zones: 5 - 9 [View Map](#)

- Tolerates pollution and other urban conditions well
- Transplants easily
- Is resistant to anthracnose
- Develops a mottled bark with red-brown scales that flake to reveal green, white and creamy yellow
- Features large leaves up to 7" long and 10" wide that are sparingly toothed along the edges; they somewhat resemble the leaves of black, sugar and red maples
- Produces inconspicuous red flowers in April as the leaves unfurl
- Yields pendulous ball-like clusters of tightly packed seed approximately 1" in diameter
- Lives longer than many other shade trees in urban settings
- Grows in a pyramidal shape that shifts to a more oval silhouette over time
- Is not suitable for small areas

## Tree Details

### Shape

Pyramidal

### Growth Speed

Medium

### Scientific Name

*Platanus x acerifolia*

### Highlights

The London planetree is a widely planted street tree, and for good reason. Its attributes were discovered in London where the new hybrid first appeared around 1645. The tree was found to thrive in the sooty air and provide wonderful shade. Its ability to withstand air pollution, drought and other adversities assures its popularity as an urban tree. Strong limbs also help make the London planetree a good choice where site conditions allow for its large size. Beyond its reputation as a survivor, this tree is simply worth admiring. The unique bark and interesting branching give it amazing visual appeal — whether summer or winter.

### Sun Preference

Full Sun, Partial Sun/Shade

### Soil Preference

Acidic, Alkaline, Clay, Drought, Loamy, Moist, Sandy, Well Drained, Wet

## Wildlife Value

The pendant seed balls are used by purple finches, goldfinches and squirrels.

## History/Lore

The London planetree is believed to have resulted from a cross between the Oriental planetree and the American sycamore. While the exact details of the tree's origin have been lost over time, it was discovered that this hybrid could tolerate the smoke and grime of London. As a result, it has been widely distributed to cities throughout the moderate climate regions of the world for nearly 400 years.

# EASTERN RED CEDAR



Loves the sun, growing best in open spaces

Features scale-like evergreen leaves compacted to form rounded or 4-sided branchlets

Produces rounded fruit that is gray or bluish-green in color and about 1/4" in diameter; the fruit resembles a berry but is actually a cone made of fused cone scales

Develops deep roots

Tolerates heat, wind and salt

Grows in a columnar or pyramidal shape

Should not be planted near apple trees due to cedar-apple rust

## Shape

Columnar

## Growth

Speed  
Medium

## Scientific

Name  
*Juniperus virginiana*

## Mature Height

40' - 50'

## Mature Spread

8' - 20'

## Highlights

The eastern redcedar tree is a common sight throughout most of the plains states and eastern United States on road cuts, in fence rows and scattered across abandoned fields — especially where limestone soils are present. It is an aromatic tree, with reddish wood giving off the scent of cedar chests and crushed fruit providing a whiff of the gin they once flavored.

Thanks to its tolerance of heat, salt, a wide range of soils and other adverse conditions, the eastern redcedar can be put to good use on the farm in windbreaks and in city landscapes for hedges, screens, clumps or even as specimen trees.

## Sun Preference

Full Sun

## Soil Preference

Acidic, Alkaline, Clay, Drought, Loamy, Moist, Rich, Sandy, Silty Loam, Well Drained

## Wildlife Value

Eastern redcedar twigs and foliage are eaten by browsers while the fruit is eaten most extensively by cedar waxwings. Evergreen foliage provides nesting and roosting cover for sparrows, robins, mockingbirds, juncos and warblers.

## History/Lore

The eastern redcedar is an ancient tree, dating to aboriginal America, where fossil evidence indicates it covered large portions of the continent. Early explorers took note of the tree. Arthur Barlowe and Phillip Amadus were quoted as saying the trees were "the tallest and reddest cedars in the world" when they arrived at Roanoke Island in 1564. Colonial craftsmen lost no time in using the wood from the eastern redcedar for furniture and fences, as it had superior weathering capability and was easy to work with. The wood was a staple of the pencil industry for over a century until supplies became exhausted and the industry switched to more plentiful western cedars.

# SERVICE BERRY

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## Mature Size

The downy serviceberry grows to a height of 15–25' and a spread of 15–25' at maturity.



## Growth Rate

This tree grows at a medium rate, with height increases of 13–24" per year.



## Sun Preference

Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers a minimum of four hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



## Soil Preference

The downy serviceberry grows well in acidic, moist and well-drained soils.



## Attributes

This tree:

- Blooms in March and April (depending on location), with delicate white flowers arranged in clusters.
- Is one of the finest small trees for fall color, with leaves turning vivid shades of red and gold.
- Produces berry-like fruit that ripens in June, changing from green to red to purplish black.
- Grows in a rounded shape.



## Wildlife Value

The fruit this tree produces is loved by birds.



# WILLOW OAK

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**Crown Shape:** round; pyramidal

**Fall Color:** yellow; showy

**Flowers:** brown; inconspicuous and not showy

**Fruit:** oval; round; brown

**Culture:**

- **Light requirement:** tree grows in full sun
- **Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic; extended flooding; well-drained
- **Drought tolerance:** high
- **Aerosol salt tolerance:** high

**Height:** 60' – 75'

**Width:** 40' to 60'

**Growth Rate:** fast

# TULIP POPLAR

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**Crown Shape:** oval

**Fall Color:** yellow; showy

**Flowers:** green; yellow; pleasant fragrance;  
showy; spring flowering

**Fruit:** elongated; brown

**Culture:**

- **Light requirement:** full sun
- **Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic;  
occasionally wet; well-drained
- **Drought tolerance:** moderate
- **Aerosol salt tolerance:** none
- **Soil salt tolerance:** poor

**Height:** 80' – 100'

**Width:** 30' to 50'

**Growth Rate:** medium

# RIVER BIRCH

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- Develops a cinnamon-colored bark that curls and peels (once mature)
- Can grow as either a single- or multi-stemmed tree
- Features glossy green leaves that are 2–3" long and somewhat triangular; margins are double-toothed and leaves are arranged alternately
- Produces brown and green catkins in April and May
- Yields a large number of tiny nutlets after female catkins mature, typically in May and June
- Is the most borer-resistant birch
- Works well for holding stream banks and keeping erosion in check
- Grows in an oval shape
- Should not be planted in very alkaline soil

## Tree Details

### Shape

Oval

### Growth Speed

Medium to Fast

### Scientific Name

Betula nigra

### Mature Height

40' - 70'

### Mature Spread

40' - 60'

### Highlights

As its name suggests, the river birch naturally grows along riverbanks. But as a landscape tree, it can be planted almost anywhere in the U.S. The species is valued for its relatively rapid growth, tolerance of wetness and some drought, unique curling bark, spreading limbs, and relative resistance to birch borer.

The river birch has not yet reached the popularity of many maples and oaks, but it is well on its way. In 2002, one of its cultivars was even named the Urban Tree of the Year by the Society of Municipal Arborists.

### Sun Preference

Full Sun, Partial Sun/Shade

### Soil Preference

Acidic, Clay, Drought, Loamy, Moist, Sandy, Well Drained, Wet

### Wildlife Value

The catkins of the River Birch are used by redpolls and pine siskins. The foliage is eaten by deer and other browsers. The small but plentiful seeds are appreciated by a wide range of songbirds.

### History/Lore

River birch wood was once used for ox yokes, wooden shoes and other products around the farm. But they were rather distasteful to loggers as knotty and spindly, therefore often left to grow along the river bank to control erosion.