

Benefits of Trees on your property:

- Increased property value
- Beautify or screen unsightly views
- Reduce storm runoff and prevent erosion
- Enhance other landscaping
- Provide food and shelter for wildlife

Benefits of Trees to the Environment and Community:

- Cool the ground, streets and buildings
- Create buffer along waterways
- Filter noise and air pollution
- Reduce and filter storm runoff water
- Reduce stress and community crime rates
- Produce oxygen and sequester carbon

Right Place – understand the planting site, think long term:

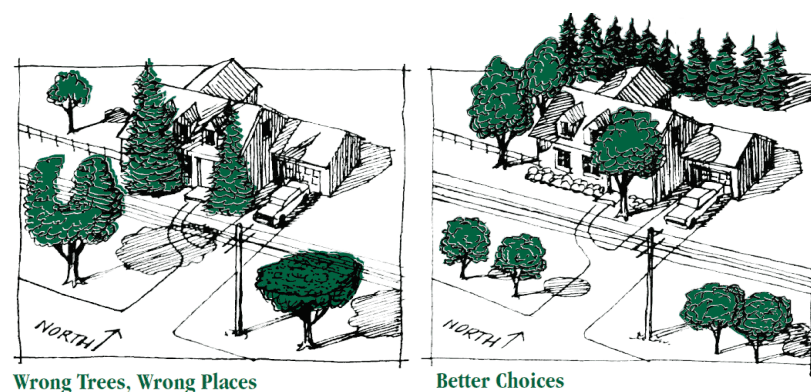
- Cold hardiness zone
- Conduct soil test to determine the pH and nutrients. Test kits are available at the Extension Office located at Bldg 14, 2449 Princess Anne Road and most public libraries.
- Drainage rate
- Seasonal sun, shade and wind patterns
- Existing or planned hardscapes, like driveways, walkways or decks
- Salt exposure (ocean spray, road treatments), tidal flooding
- Vehicle and pedestrian traffic
- Power lines, utilities, easements, rights-of-way
- Microclimates
- Current vegetation and/or landscaping
- Available space for canopy and roots

Right Function – define your desired outcome, think long term:

- Seasonal energy conservation
- Erosion control, storm runoff management
- Block or enhance views
- Wildlife support
- Desired landscape color, form or texture
- Health and social benefits
- Increased property value

Right Tree – maximize your benefits and satisfaction

- Primary Tree Characteristics
 - Mature height
 - <30' – Small
 - 30'-50' – Medium
 - >50' – Large
 - Mature canopy shape and spread
 - Deciduous or Evergreen
 - Growth rate, moisture needs
 - Flower, fruit and leaf maintenance
- Select a tree that:
 - Best achieves your desired outcome
 - Performs best in your local area
 - Will thrive in your site conditions
 - Is disease and pest resistant
 - When mature, will be in balance and scale with the rest of the landscape
- Use a tree selector website to help find a suitable tree for your site and design



❖ Avoid the Following Trees:

- Callery Pear (all)
- Ginkgo (female)
- Mimosa
- Royal Paulownia
- White Mulberry
- Chinaberry
- Leyland Cypress
- Norway Maple
- Tree of Heaven
- White Poplar

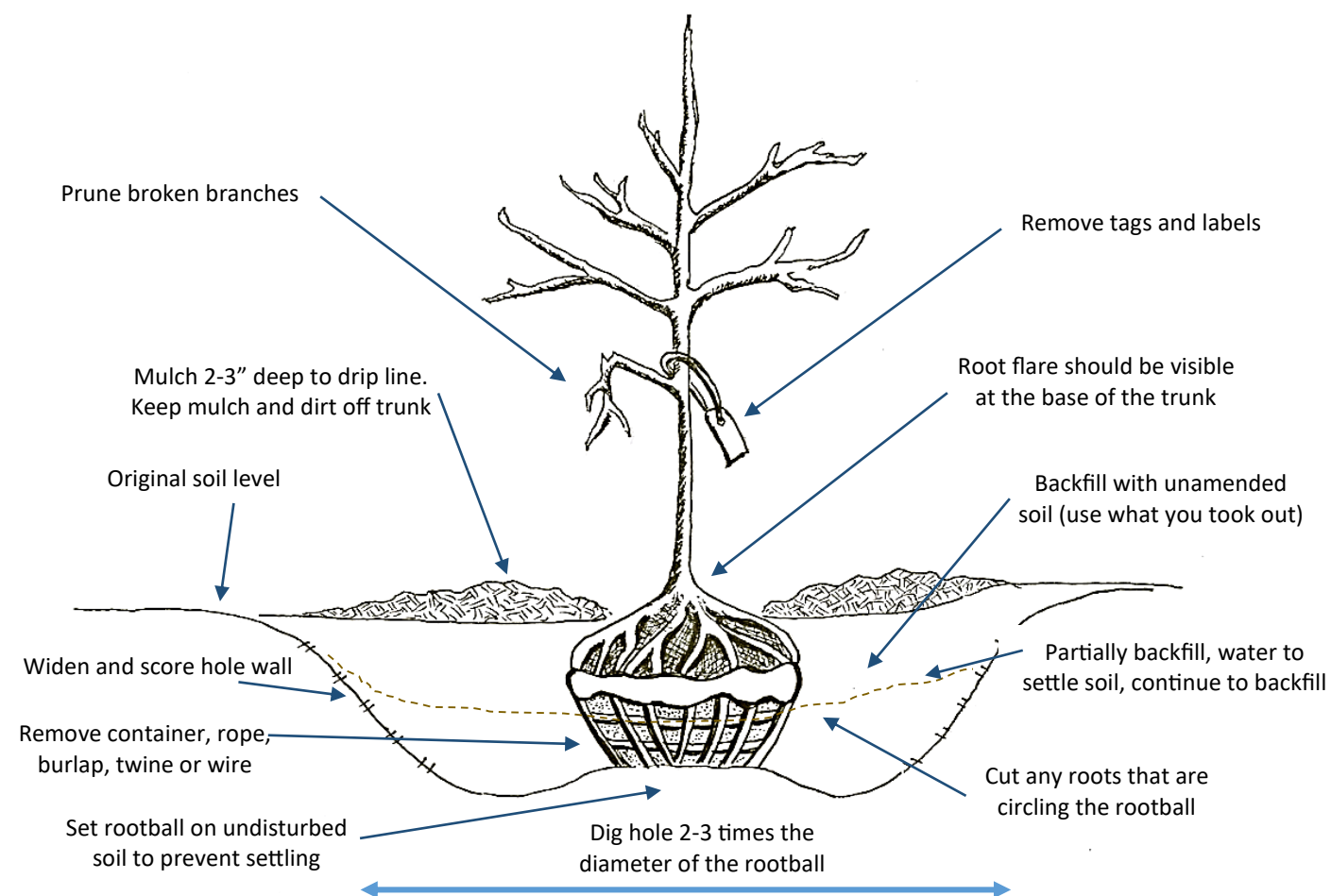
Placement:

- Plan for the mature tree size
- Choose trees that fit site restrictions and planting conditions
- Evaluate drainage, moisture and soil compaction to determine if any special site preparation is needed
- Avoid planting near septic fields and underground utilities. Call **Miss Utility** before you dig
- Avoid planting too close to driveways, roadways, patios, walkways and walls. Roots need room to grow

- Avoid planting too close to ditches (unless a rain garden) or where another large tree has recently been removed
- Avoid planting trees with leaf / fruit litter near pools, decks, walkways and cars
- Avoid planting too close to buildings. Tree canopies need room to grow

Planting and Initial Care:

- Planting guidelines differ for bare root, ball & burlap, and containerized trees. Go to arborday.org/trees/planting to see videos for each of these types
- Plant when trees are dormant
- Do not fertilize or overwater
- Do not plant too deep – see diagram
- Do not pile soil or mulch against trunk
- Do not stake the tree unless required; do not leave stakes more than 6 months



Recommended Trees for Virginia Beach

Name (* native to VA)	<30 ft	30 - 50 ft	>50 ft	Evergreen	Fall/Winter color	Showy Flowers	Interesting Bark	Tolerates Salt	Tolerates Wet	Tolerates Dry	Comments
Ash, green *		✓			✓				✓		Fast growth, excellent shade.
Baldcypress *			✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	Long-lived tree. Characteristic root growth (knees) occurs when grown in wet sites.
Beech, American *			✓		✓			✓			Smooth, flat gray bark. High moisture requirements
Birch, River ' Little King' *	✓				✓		✓		✓		Extremely resistant to the bronze birch borer.
Cedar, Eastern Red *			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	Blackish-green berry-like cones on female trees ripen in fall and attract birds.
Chaste Tree	✓				✓	✓					White, post, swamp chestnut, laurel, northern red, southern red, black, blackjack, water and willow are all local species. Support myriad wildlife.
Cherry, Black *			✓		✓			✓			When crushed, leaves and bark have cherry odor. Fruit can be messy.
Dogwood, Cornelian cherry	✓				✓	✓					Sour tasting edible fruit.
Dogwood, Flowering *	✓				✓						VA state tree. Fruit supports large variety of birds and animals. Avoid poorly drained soil
Dogwood, Kousa		✓			✓	✓					Berry-like fruit provide food for birds.
Elm, Lacebark			✓				✓	✓	✓		Chinese elm has good resistance to Dutch elm disease.
Fringetree *		✓			✓	✓			✓		Fruit ripens in late summer and are a food source for birds and wildlife.
Gum, Black *			✓		✓				✓	✓	Flowers are nectar source for bees. Edible fruit attract birds and wildlife. Spectacular scarlet fall color.
Hickory *			✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	Bitternut, Mockernut and Pignut species native to Tidewater. Many hickories hybridize, making exact ID difficult. Attracts butterflies and birds
Holly, American *		✓		✓					✓		Birds are attracted to berry-like fruit that ripen in the fall.
Hornbeam, American *		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		A low-maintenance understory tree for shady sites.
Magnolia, Saucer	✓				✓						Hybrid cultivars feature flowers in shades of white, pink, rose, purple, magenta and burgundy.
Magnolia, Southern 'Little Gem'	✓			✓	✓						Large fragrant white flowers in summer.
Magnolia, Star	✓				✓						Late winter to early spring bloom of fragrant star-shaped white flowers.
Magnolia, Sweetbay *	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	Multi-stemmed tree features fragrant white flowers mid-spring to summer.
Maple, Japanese	✓				✓	✓					Many cultivars with multiple sizes, shapes and colors.
Maple, Paperbark		✓			✓	✓					Rich cinnamon exfoliating bark.
Maple, Red *			✓		✓				✓	✓	Tolerates widest variety of soil conditions of any local tree
Maple, Trident		✓			✓	✓			✓		Three-lobed leaves resemble a trident.
Oak *			✓		✓						White, post, swamp chestnut, laurel, northern red, southern red, black, blackjack, water and willow are all local species. Support myriad wildlife.
Oak, Live *			✓	✓					✓		Long-lived tree with majestic spreading branches. Acorns food source for wildlife.
Pawpaw *		✓			✓				✓	✓	Edible fall fruit taste and consistency resembles bananas. Need two to cross pollinate for fruit
Pecan *			✓								Naturalized. A tall ornamental shade tree for large properties.
Persimmon *		✓					✓	✓			Small dropping fruit may be an issue. Japanese variety recommended for edible fruit.
Pine, Japanese Black			✓	✓					✓	✓	Irregular spreading branches as tree matures.
Pine, Loblolly *			✓	✓					✓		Can tolerate poor drainage areas.
Pine, Virginia *			✓	✓						✓	Seeds are important wildlife food. Canopy tree, suitable for poor, dry sites.
Poplar, Yellow *			✓		✓	✓					Also known as Tulip Poplar. Very large shade or lawn tree for large landscapes.
Redbud, Eastern *	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓	Good understory tree with purple flowers in spring. Attracts butterflies.
Sassafras *		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		Appealing aromatic scent, attractive bark and leaves
Serviceberry, Downy *	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓	Edible berries can be used in jams, jellies and pies. Best in shrub borders, woodland or naturalized.
Snowbell, Japanese		✓			✓						Bell-shaped, fragrant white flowers May-June.
Sourwood *		✓			✓				✓		Honey made from flowers is prized. Roots sensitive to disturbance.
Stewartia *		✓			✓	✓	✓				Low maintenance with showy cup-shaped, camellia-like white flowers.
Sweetgum *			✓		✓				✓		Some find spiny fruit balls annoying. Straight trunk, good shade
Sycamore, American *			✓		✓		✓				A large tree for a large space. Exfoliating bark.
Witch Hazel *	✓				✓	✓					Fall blooming.
Zelkova, Japanese			✓		✓	✓			✓		Good lawn, shade or street tree.

Interactive Tree Selector Websites:

Arbor Day Foundation Tree Wizard
arborday.org/shopping/trees/treewizard/intro.cfm

Virginia Urban Street Tree Selector
dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/treeselector.cfm

ITrees Species Tools
species.itreetools.org/selector/

Additional Print Resources:

Virginia Cooperative Extension Publications:
 430-295 – Tree Planting Guide
<https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/71163d81-2774-4946-9f23-1a4ea36b96bd/content>

420-180 – Urban Forestry Issues
<https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/70e56745-d9e2-4827-8160-092e3cb8e795/content>

Common Native Trees of Virginia – Identification Guide
 Virginia Dept of Forestry - 2020

Norfolk Botanical Gardens – Plants for Hampton Roads
 by Brian O’Neil

Best Plants for Hampton Roads – A Landscape and Garden Companion by Dawn Alleman, et al

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping – Chesapeake Bay Watershed

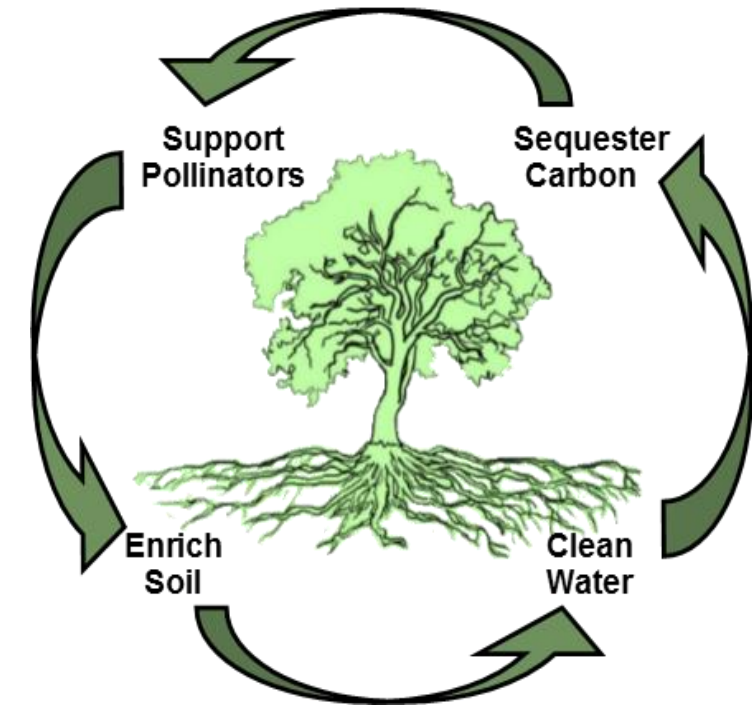
Plant HR Natives - Native Plants for Southeast Virginia - Hampton Roads Region

Trees and Shrubs that Tolerate Saline Soils and Salt Spray Drift 430-031 (SPES-342P)

ENERGY SERIES: What About Landscaping and Energy Efficiency? BSE-145 (BSE-334NP)

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**Right Place
 Right Function
 Right Tree!**




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 Gardeners**
Virginia Beach

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