

Species Recommended for Shelterbelts

TALL DECIDUOUS

| SPECIES | HEIGHT | SPREAD | LIFESPAN | MOISTURE REQUIRED | GROWTH RATE | COMMENTS |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|---|
| ACUTE WILLOW | 12 m (40 ft) | 11 m (35 ft) | SHORT | NORMAL | FAST | It's a great choice for developing a quick, hardy shelterbelt, windbreak or privacy screen and requires almost no maintenance. Prefers moist areas. They are native pollinators. |
| AMUR MAPLE | 6 m (20 ft) | 5 m (16 ft) | MEDIUM | NORMAL | FAST | Incredibly colourful tree. Moist to dry conditions and is not affected by soil type or pH. |
| GOLDEN WILLOW | 15 m (49 ft) | 15 m (49 ft) | MEDIUM | NORMAL | FAST | Plant near moist or wet areas on your property. Attracts a variety of birds and mammals with its twigs and buds. Native pollinators. Note: do not plant near buildings or buried services. |
| GREEN ASH | 18 m (60 ft) | 12 m (40 ft) | LONG | DRY | FAST | This tree is native to the prairies and is well suited for drought and cold. Can also tolerate soil compaction, periods of flooding and a wide variety of soils, including alkaline. |
| LAUREL LEAF WILLOW | 15 m (49 ft) | 8 m (25 ft) | MEDIUM | NORMAL | FAST | Prefers moist to wet ground and full sun, though it can tolerate partial shade, too. Salt-tolerant species for those with saline soils. Native pollinators. |
| MANITOBA MAPLE | 15 m (49 ft) | 12 m (39 ft) | LONG | ANY | FAST | Cold, hardy and tolerant of a wide range of soil moisture conditions. |
| NORTHWEST POPLAR | 25 m (82 ft) | 12 m (40 ft) | SHORT | ANY | VERY FAST | Tolerates partial shade, drought, and most types of soil. This poplar produces no fuzz. Note: do not plant near buildings or buried services. |
| RUSSIAN OLIVE | 9 m (30 ft) | 5 m (15 ft) | MEDIUM | DRY | MEDIUM | Drought and salt tolerant, works well as a shelterbelt species, and used to combat erosion. In warmer areas, it can invade watersheds and is considered invasive. Do some research to plant the right tree in the right spot. |
| TOWER POPLAR | 20 m (66 ft) | 2.1 m (7 ft) | MEDIUM | ANY | FAST | Can tolerate drought and thrives in poor soils. It produces no fuzz. |

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SHRUB

| SPECIES | HEIGHT | SPREAD | LIFESPAN | MOISTURE REQUIRED | GROWTH RATE | COMMENTS |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|---|
| COMMON CARAGANA | 4 m (13 ft) | 1.5 m (5 ft) | MEDIUM | DRY | MEDIUM | Exceptional hardiness and drought tolerance. Can be difficult to contain once planted. That said, it is also a very hardy species that can get shelterbelts established in the harshest parts of our prairies. Use the right plant in the right place. |
| COMMON PURPLE LILAC | 5 m (16 ft) | 2.7 m (9 ft) | MEDIUM | DRY | FAST | Cold hardy, easy to grow, and can tolerate most soil types. Some people alternate villosa and common purple lilacs to create the impression that the hedge is in flower for almost a full month with the common purple flowering about 2 weeks sooner than the villosa lilac. |
| HEDGE ROSE | 3 m (10 ft) | 1.8 m (6 ft) | MEDIUM | ANY | MEDIUM | Continuous flowering makes it attractive to pollinators. Many song and game birds utilize this tree for food and habitat. Thrives in a wide variety of soils and is a tall rose forming a useful hedge. |
| PEKING COTONEASTER | 2.1 m (7 ft) | 1.5 m (5 ft) | MEDIUM | DRY | FAST | Medium-sized shrub adept to colder climates. Best suited for use as a hedge. |
| SEA BUCKTHORN | 5 m (16 ft) | 4 m (12 ft) | MEDIUM | DRY | MEDIUM | Salt-tolerant species for those with saline soils. Very popular with permaculture types who use the nitrogen fixing properties of this plant to benefit other nearby fruits. |
| VILLOSA LILAC | 5 m (16 ft) | 3 m (10 ft) | MEDIUM | DRY | MEDIUM | Cold hardy shrub with excellent privacy, and wind and snow protection, as well as fragrant flowers. Grows quickly and is very drought-resistant and salt-tolerant. Its roots are non-suckering and it does not compete with nearby crops. It provides habitat for birds and small mammals. Lilac species are rated excellent for pollen |
| WESTERN CHOKECHERRY | 7 m (23 ft) | 5 m (16 ft) | SHORT | DRY | FAST | It produces white flowers in the spring and edible dark purple fruit that matures between September and October. Its cherries are great for making jams and jellies (or wine), but are not very palatable for |

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CONIFEROUS

| SPECIES | HEIGHT | SPREAD | LIFESPAN | MOISTURE REQUIRED | GROWTH RATE | COMMENTS |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------------------|----------------|---|
| COLORADO SPRUCE | 27 m (90 ft) | 6 m (20 ft) | 80 yrs+ | DRY | SLOW | Tough, long-lived, and adapted to a wide range of growing conditions. |
| LODGEPOLE PINE | 6 m (20 ft) | 6 m (20 ft) | LONG | DRY | FAST | This native pine is noted for its rapid growth among evergreen. And as one of Canada's hardiest conifers, it can tolerate cold, shade, drought, and poor soil conditions. |
| NORWAY SPRUCE | 39 m (130 ft) | 7.5 m (25ft) | LONG | DRY | FAST | This hardy, adaptable tree thrives in moist conditions, but will grow in clay or sandy soils. It is an openly branched evergreen recognized by its drooping branchlets and large cones. |
| SCOTCH PINE | 15 m (49 ft) | 5 m (16 ft) | LONG | DRY | MEDIUM | A hardy, adaptable evergreen. This large tree has an oval crown and distinctively orange bark when mature. Scots Pine, as it's also known, prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil. |
| SIBERIAN LARCH | 20 m (66 ft) | 8 m (25 ft) | MEDIUM | NORMAL | SLOW | A large, cold hardy conifer. Like the Tamarack, its needles turn golden yellow and drop in the fall, and it is able to handle saturated soils. This variety is often used on the south side of a shelterbelt to let sunlight in during the winter and to provide protection or shading during the summer. |
| WHITE SPRUCE | 25 m (82 ft) | 6 m (20 ft) | 70 yrs+ | DRY | MEDIUM | A hardy, long-lived evergreen tree. It can grow in many soil types and moisture levels. It can even tolerate significant amounts of shade. White spruce requires little maintenance. |