



COMMON TREES OF PENNSYLVANIA

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Purchasing Trees: Spring is the time to prepare your landscaping for the warm season. Purchasing and planting new ornamental trees can be a large part of your landscaping project. Here is some advice for purchasing new trees.

- ✓ Inspect its general appearance. The trunk should be straight and the crown symmetrical.
- ✓ Branches should extend from the trunk at no less than a 45 degree angle.
- ✓ Look for trunk damage. Check for cuts, cracks, and scrapes. A wound more than a quarter of the trunk's circumference is too large.
- ✓ Check for discolored, sunken, and swollen areas.
- ✓ Search for insect damage (small circular holes in the bark).

In general, the size of the root ball should be proportional to the crown area. If the root ball is too small, it will be difficult for the tree to become established. To make sure you are purchasing a tree of the correct final size for your landscaping, follow the general guidelines below:

Trunk Diameter*	Root Ball Diameter	Full-Grown Height
1-1/2 inches	20 inches	9-13 feet
2 inches	24 inches	13-15 feet
3 inches	32 inches	14-16 feet

*measured 6" above ground level

Source: The Pennsylvania State University, DCNR (4-04)

There are 108 species of native and introduced trees in Pennsylvania. Trees are a renewable resource of paper, lumber, and chemicals; they also remove pollution. The chart below shows a few trees found in Pennsylvania and identifies their common and scientific names and mature height.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	MATURE HEIGHT
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	15-20 feet
Choke Cherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	20-30 feet
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	20-30 feet
Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	30-40 feet
Common Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	30-40 feet
Paper Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	40-50 feet
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	50-60 feet
Quaking Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	50-60 feet
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	70-80 feet
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	70-80 feet
Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	75-125 feet

