



# Increasing Tree Diversity in Chicago's Landscape

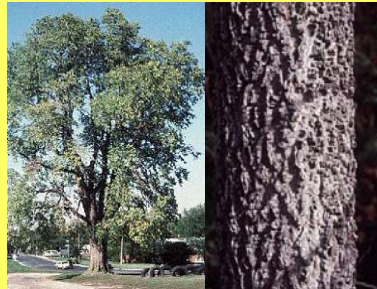
Plant Native Non-Invasive Urban Tolerant Trees

## 2010 Chicago Top-10 Trees



**Yellow Buckeye**  
(*Aesculus Flava*)

A large upright oval tree that can reach 75 feet in height. This native tree is insect and disease resistant in urban conditions. The Buckeye is a magnificent addition to the landscape and attracts birds and wildlife.



**Hackberry**  
(*Celtis occidentalis*)

Excellent for city streets, Hackberry and can grow to 50-70 feet in height and is distinguished by strikingly warty bark. The tree likes full sun, is easily transplanted, and performs well under adverse conditions.



**Ginkgo / Maidenhair Tree**  
(*Ginkgo biloba*)

A good urban tree because of its ability to tolerate drought, heat, confined and poor soils. Grows slowly at first but once established is vigorous and can reach 100' tall! Ginkgos have survived for millions of years.



**Cucumber tree**  
(*Magnolia acuminata*)

This magnolia, named for its green, warty, cucumber-like fruits, grows to 40-60 feet and produces slightly-fragrant, greenish-yellow, tulip-like flowers at the twig tips in late spring.



**Hill's Oak**  
(*Quercus ellipsoidalis*)

Hill's oak grows to a height of 60-75 feet, with a trunk diameter of up to 2 feet. The tree is found on dry, sandy sites, dry upland woods, and occasionally on slopes. In Illinois, it is present only in the northern-most tier of the state.



**Chicago Blues Black Locust**  
(*Robinia pseudoacacia*)

A locally cultivated tree that is resistant to borers. The flowers are fragrant and contribute to honey production by bees. Chicago Blues Black Locust is a great tree for difficult sites; transplants well and is drought and salt tolerant.



**Bald Cypress**  
(*Taxodium distichum*)

A native tree that can reach 70 feet high, is widely planted in parks and on city streets. It's red fibrous bark and fine leaves provide textural variety. The Cypress's ability to withstand wind-storms and drought assures it's popularity as an urban tree.



**Harvest Gold Linden**  
(*Tilia mongolica 'Harvest gold'*)

This tree has the characteristically attractive pyramidal shape of most lindens, but it's leaves are distinctively toothed. It also has the added benefit of attractive flaking bark. This tough and durable tree makes a fine street tree growing to 40-45 feet tall.



**Blackhaw**  
(*Viburnum prunifolium*)

Blackhaw may be grown as a large, upright, multi-stemmed shrub or as a small, single trunk tree. Non-fragrant white flowers appear in spring. Its colorful fruit, berry-like drupes, often persist into winter and are colorfully attractive over the course of the year.



**Village Green Zelkova**  
(*Zelkova serrata 'Village Green'*)

In the elm family, Village Green Zelkova typically grows to 50-60' tall with a spreading, generally upward-branching, vase-shaped crown. In older trees, the bark exfoliates in patches exposing an attractive orangish inner bark.

Photo Gary Kling/University of Illinois  
Credit: Robert H. Mohlenbrock @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA SCS, 1989, Midwest wetland flora: Field office illustrated guide to plant species, Midwest National Technical Center, Lincoln. Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org © 2002 Steve Baskauf Missouri Botanical Garden PlantFinder



**Chicago's Top-10 Trees are selected annually based upon good performance over a wide range of urban conditions.**