

THE TREE LIST

# GREAT TREES FOR THE KANSAS CITY REGION

AS RATED BY METROPOLITAN AREA EXPERTS

last updated, May 17, 2013

Study by Robert Whitman, ASLA, AICP, LEED AP

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## ABOUT THIS STUDY:

Kansas City area tree experts were asked to provide numerical opinions (0-5 ratings) for 378 trees in four categories (Landscape Value, Street Tree Value, Cultural Adaptability, and Useful Lifespan). These ratings were averaged to determine the highest rated trees for each category.

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## LARGE TREES FOR THE LANDSCAPE (IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE OUT OF 218 TREES)

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1. *Quercus alba* **White Oak**
2. *Quercus bicolor* **Swamp White Oak**
3. *Acer saccharum* 'Autumn Splendor' **Caddo Sugar Maple**
4. *Gymnocladus dioicus* 'Espresso' **Kentucky Coffeetree**
5. *Acer x truncatum* 'Warrenred' **Pacific Sunset Maple**
6. *Acer saccharum* 'John Pair' **John Pair Caddo Maple**
7. *Ginkgo biloba* 'Autumn Gold' **Autumn Gold Ginkgo**
8. *Acer saccharum* 'Fall Fiesta' **Fall Fiesta Sugar Maple**
9. *Quercus macrocarpa* **Bur Oak**
10. *Quercus muehlenbergii* **Chinkapin Oak**
11. *Acer miyabei* 'Morton' **State Street Miyabe Maple**
12. *Taxodium distichum* 'Shawnee Brave' **Bald Cypress**
13. *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* **Dawn Redwood**
14. *Taxodium distichum* **Bald Cypress**
15. *Acer saccharum* 'Legacy' **Legacy Sugar Maple**
16. *Nyssa sylvatica* **Blackgum**
17. *Taxodium ascendens* **Pond Cypress**
18. *Ulmus propinqua* 'JFS Bieberich' **Emerald Sunshine Elm**
19. *Quercus shumardii* **Shumard Oak**
20. *Quercus rubra* **Red Oak**
21. *Ginkgo b.* 'Princeton Sentry' **Princeton Sentry Ginkgo**
22. *Acer x Keithsform* **Norwegian Sunset Maple**
23. *Tilia tomentosa* 'Sterling' **Sterling Silver Linden**
24. *Quercus x wareii* 'Long' **Regal Prince Columnar Oak**
25. *Tilia americana* 'DTR 123' **Legend American Linden**
26. *Ulmus x 'Frontier'* **Frontier Elm**
27. *Quercus pagoda* **Cherrybark Oak**
28. *Quercus x 'Crimschmidt'* **Crimson Spire Col. Oak**
29. *Tilia tomentosa* **Silver Linden**
30. *Quercus stellata* **Post Oak**
31. *Zelkova serrata* 'Musashino' **Columnar Zelkova**
32. *Acer saccharum* 'Green Mountain' **Green Mt. Sugar Maple**
33. *Carpinus betulus* **European Hornbeam**
34. *Cladrastis kentukea* **Yellowwood**
35. *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Emerald Prairie' **Em. Prairie Lbk. Elm**
36. *Quercus lyrata* **Overcup Oak**
37. *Acer miyabei* **Miyabe Maple**
38. *Quercus prinus* **Chestnut Oak**
39. *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Allee' **Allee Lacebark Elm**
40. *Carpinus caroliniana* **American Hornbeam**
41. *Magnolia x acuminata* 'Butterflies' **Butterflies Magnolia**
42. *Quercus coccinea* **Scarlet Oak**
43. *Ulmus amer.* 'New Harmony' **New Harmony Amer. Elm**
44. *Eucommia ulmoides* **Hardy Rubber Tree**
45. *Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' **Princeton American Elm**
46. *Ulmus americana* 'Valley Forge' **Valley Forge Amer. Elm**
47. *Carpinus betulus* 'Frans Fontaine' **Columnar Hornbeam**
48. *Zelkova serrata* 'Village Green' **Village Green Zelkova**
49. *Maclura pomifera* 'White Shield' **Seedless Osage Orange**
50. *Aesculus x carnea* 'O'Neill's Red' **Red Horsechestnut**
51. *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Athena' **Athena Lacebark Elm**
52. *Zelkova serrata* 'Green Vase' **Green Vase Zelkova**
53. *Acer saccharum* **Sugar Maple**
54. *Tilia americana* 'McKSentry' **American Sentry Linde**
55. *Ulmus x 'Morton Glossy'* **Triumph Elm**
56. *Fagus sylvatica* 'Atropunicea' **Purpleleaf Beech**

# GREAT TREES FOR THE KANSAS CITY REGION

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## LARGE STREET TREES (IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE OUT OF 218 TREES)

1. *Quercus bicolor* **Swamp White Oak**
2. *Tilia tomentosa* 'Sterling' **Sterling Silver Linden**
3. *Tilia americana* 'DTR 123' **Legend American Linden**
4. *Acer miyabei* 'Morton' **State Street Miyabe Maple**
5. *Taxodium d.* 'Shawnee Brave' **Col. Bald Cypress**
6. *Ulmus prop.* 'JFS Bieberich' **Emerald Sunshine Elm**
7. *Ulmus x* 'Frontier' **Frontier Elm**
8. *Ginkgo biloba* 'Autumn Gold' **Autumn Gold Ginkgo**
9. *Acer x trunc.* 'Keithsform' **Norwegian Sunset Maple**
10. *Acer x truncatum* 'Warrenred' **Pacific Sunset Maple**
11. *Gymnocladus dioicus* 'Expresso' **Kentucky Coffeetree**
12. *Quercus shumardii* **Shumard Oak**
13. *Ginkgo b.* 'Princeton Sentry' **Princeton Sentry Ginkgo**
14. *Quercus buckleyi* **Texas Red Oak**
15. *Quercus x wareii* 'Long' **Regal Prince Col. Oak**
16. *Quercus lyrata* **Overcup Oak**
17. *Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' **Princeton Amer. Elm**
18. *Quercus alba* **White Oak**
19. *Ulmus americana* 'New Harmony' **New Harmony Elm**
20. *Acer saccharum* 'Autumn Splendor' **Caddo Sugar Maple**
21. *Quercus rubra* **Red Oak**
22. *Maclura pomifera* 'White Shield' **Seedls. Osage Orange**
23. *Quercus muehlenbergii* **Chinkapin Oak**
24. *Eucommia ulmoides* **Hardy Rubber Tree**
25. *Platanus x acerifolia* 'Bloodgood' **Bloodgood Planetree**
26. *Ulmus a.* 'Valley Forge' **Valley Forge American Elm**
27. *Zelkova serrata* 'Musashino' **Columnar Zelkova**
28. *Zelkova serrata* 'Green Vase' **Green Vase Zelkova**
29. *Quercus x Crimschmidt* 'Crimson Spire' **Crimson Spire Columnar Oak**
30. *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Emerald Prairie' **Lacebark Elm**
31. *Quercus texana* **Nuttall Oak**
32. *Tilia americana* 'McKSentry' **American Sentry Linden**
33. *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Allee' **Allee Lacebark Elm**
34. *Ulmus x* 'Morton Glossy' **Triumph Elm**
35. *Ulmus x* 'Patriot' **Patriot Elm**
36. *Taxodium ascendens* **Pond Cypress**
37. *Quercus macrocarpa* **Bur Oak**
38. *Quercus coccinea* **Scarlet Oak**
39. *Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Imperial' **Imperial Honeylocust**
40. *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Athena' **Athena Lacebark Elm**
41. *Acer saccharum* 'John Pair' **John Pair Caddo Maple**
42. *Gleditsia triacanthus* 'Skyline' **Skyline Honeylocust**
43. *Zelkova serrata* 'Village Green' **Village Green Zelkova**
44. *Acer saccharum* 'Fall Fiesta' **Fall Fiesta Sugar Maple**
45. *Acer saccharum* 'Legacy' **Legacy Sugar Maple**
46. *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* **Dawn Redwood**
47. *Quercus prinus* **Chestnut Oak**
48. *Taxodium distichum* **Bald Cypress**
49. *Ulmus x* 'Morton' **Accolade Elm**
50. *Acer miyabei* **Miyabe Maple**

## LOWEST RATED COMMONLY USED TREES (IN ORDER OF LEAST PREFERENCE OUT OF 371 TREES)

1. *Pyrus calleryana* 'Bradford' **Bradford Pear**
2. *Acer saccharinum* **Silver Maple**
3. *Prunus cerasifera* 'Newport' **Newport Plum**
4. *Populus deltoides* **Cottonwood**
5. *Fraxinus* **Green & White Ash**
6. *Acer ginnala* **Amur Maple**
7. *Crataegus viridis* 'Winter King' **Green Hawthorn**
8. *Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Purple Robe' **Black Locust**
9. *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Rotundiloba' **Sweetgum**
10. *Acer rubrum* **Red Maple**

# GREAT TREES FOR THE KANSAS CITY REGION

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## MOST CULTURALLY ADAPTABLE TREES FOR KC (OUT OF 371 TREES)

1. *Ulmus americana* 'New Harmony' **New Harmony Elm**
2. *Quercus macrocarpa* **Bur Oak**
3. *Ulmus* x 'Morton Glossy' **Triumph Elm**
4. *Quercus bicolor* **Swamp White Oak**
5. *Ulmus propinqua* 'JFS Bieberich' **Emerald Sunshine Elm**
6. *Ulmus* x 'Patriot' **Patriot Elm**
7. *Maclura pomifera* 'White Shield' **Fruitless Osage Orange**
8. *Quercus x wareii* 'Long' **Regal Prince Columnar Oak**
9. *Taxodium d.* 'Shawnee Brave' **Columnar Bald Cypress**
10. *Plataus occidentalis* **Sycamore**
11. *Gymnocladus dioicus* 'Expresso' **Kentucky Coffeetree**
12. *Taxodium distichum* **Bald Cypress**
13. *Ulmus* x 'Morton' **Accolade Elm**
14. *Acer truncatum* **Shantung Maple**
15. *Quercus imbricaria* **Shingle Oak**
16. *Ginkgo biloba* 'Autumn Gold' **Autumn Gold Ginkgo**
17. *Tilia tomentosa* 'Sterling' **Sterling Silver Linden**
18. *Ulmus* x 'Frontier' **Frontier Elm**
19. *Acer x trunc.* 'Keithsform' **Norwegian Sunset Maple**
20. *Acer x truncatum* 'Warrenred' **Pacific Sunset Maple**
21. *Tilia americana* 'DTR 123' **Princeton Amer. Linden**
22. *Acer x freemanii* 'Autumn Blaze' **Autumn Blaze Maple**
23. *Quercus shumardii* **Shumard Oak**
24. *Quercus muehlenbergii* **Chinkapin Oak**
25. *Celtis occidentalis* **Hackberry**
26. *Ginkgo b.* 'Princeton Sentry' **Princeton Sentry Ginkgo**
27. *Platanus x acerifolia* 'Bloodgood' **Bloodgood Planetree**
28. *Acer x freemanii* 'Armstrong' **Armstrong Col. Maple**
29. *Quercus lyrata* **Overcup Oak**
30. *Acer miyabei* 'Morton' **State Street Miyabe Maple**
31. *Malus* **Coral Burst & Adirondack Crabapple**
32. *Quercus buckleyi* **Texas Red Oak**
33. *Euonymus bungeanus* **Winterberry Euonymus**
34. *Taxodium ascendens* **Pond Cypress**
35. *Malus* **Japanese & Professor Springer Crabapple**
36. *Quercus rubra* **Red Oak**
37. *Ulmus a.* 'Valley Forge' **Valley Forge American Elm**
38. *Gleditsia triacanthos* **Honeylocust**
39. *Acer campestre* **Hedge Maple**
40. *Corylus colurna* **Turkish Hazel**
41. *Malus* **Donald Wyman & Mary Potter Crabapple**
42. *Acer saccharum* 'A.S.' **Autumn Splendor Caddo Maple**

## LONGEST LIVED TREES (IN ORDER OF USEFUL LIFESPAN, OUT OF 371 TREES)

1. *Quercus macrocarpa* **Bur Oak**
2. *Quercus muehlenbergii* **Chinkapin Oak**
3. *Quercus alba* **White Oak**
4. *Quercus bicolor* **Swamp White Oak**
5. *Quercus rubra* **Red Oak**
6. *Quercus stellata* **Post Oak**
7. *Juglans nigra* **Black Walnut**
8. *Quercus lyrata* **Overcup Oak**
9. *Taxodium dist.* **Bald Cypress**
10. *Ginkgo biloba* **Ginkgo**
11. *Ulmus americana* **Amer. Elm cultiv.**
12. *Platanus x acer.* **London Planetree**
13. *Platanus occidentalis* **Sycamore**
14. *Maclura pomifera* **Osage Orange**
15. *Quercus prinus* **Chestnut Oak**
16. *Quercus imbricaria* **Shingle Oak**
17. *Quercus shumardii* **Shumard Oak**
18. *Gymnocladus dioicus* **K. Coffeetree**
19. *Metasequoia glyp.* **Dawn Redwood**
20. *Quercus palustris* **Pin Oak**
21. *Quercus coccinea* **Scarlet Oak**
22. *Carya* **Hickory & Pecan**
23. *Quercus pagoda* **Cherrybark Oak**
24. *Quercus robur* **English Oak**
25. *Ulmus X* **Elm Hybrids**
26. *Acer* **Pac. & Nor. Sunset Maples**
27. *Catalpa speciosa* **Northern Catalpa**

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## SMALL TREES FOR THE LANDSCAPE (IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE OUT OF 153 TREES)

1. *Acer griseum* **Paperbark Maple**
2. *Acer truncatum* **Shantung Maple**
3. *Cornus kousa* **Kousa Dogwood**
4. *Chionanthus virginicus* **White Fringetree**
5. *Aesculus pavia* **Red Buckeye**
6. *Hamamelis virginiana* **Witch Hazel**
7. *Acer palmatum* 'Bloodgood' **Red-leaf Jap. Maple**
8. *Chionanthus retusus* **Chinese Fringetree**
9. *Cercis reniformis* 'Oklahoma' **Oklahoma Redbud**
10. *Syringa reticulata* 'Ivory Silk' **Japanese Tree Lilac**
11. *Acer buergerianum* **Trident Maple**
12. *Acer triflorum* **Three-Flowered Maple**
13. *Malus sargentii* **Sargent Crabapple**
14. *Malus* 'Royal Raindrops' **Royal Raindrops Crab**
15. *Cercis canadensis* **Redbud**
16. *Cornus florida* **White Flowering Dogwood**
17. *Magnolia virginiana* **Sweetbay Magnolia**
18. *Amelanchier* 'Autumn Brilliance' **Apple Serviceberry**
19. *Heptacodium miconioides* **Seven-son Flower**
20. *Cornus controversa* 'June Snow' **June Snow Dogwood**
21. *Parrotia persica* **Persian Parrotia**
22. *Magnolia* x 'Jane' **Jane Magnolia**
23. *Malus* 'Adirondack' **Adirondack Crabapple**
24. *Malus* 'Velvet Pillar' **Columnar Crabapple**
25. *Cornus mas* **Corneliancherry Dogwood**
26. *Ostrya virginiana* **Ironwood/Hophornbeam**

## SMALL STREET TREES (IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE OUT OF 153 TREES)

1. *Acer truncatum* **Shantung Maple**
2. *Zelkova serrata* 'Schmidtlow' **Wireless Zelkova**
3. *Acer buergerianum* **Trident Maple**
4. *Syringa reticulata* 'Ivory Silk' **Japanese Tree Lilac**
5. *Malus* 'Velvet Pillar' **Columnar Crabapple**
6. *Maackia amurensis* **Amur Maackia**
7. *Ostrya virginiana* **Ironwood/Hophornbeam**
8. *Koelreuteria paniculata* **Golden Raintree**
9. *Syringa pekinensis* 'China Snow' **Chinese Tree Lilac**
10. *Acer griseum* **Paperbark Maple**
11. *Malus* 'Adirondack' **Adirondack Crabapple**
12. *Acer tartaricum* **Tartarian Maple**
13. *Parrotia persica* **Persian Parrotia**
14. *Prunus padus* 'Drietree' **Merlot Bird Cherry**
15. *Malus* 'Royal Raindrops' **Royal Raindrops Crab**
16. *Crataegus ambigua* **Russian Hawthorn**

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