



# YORK REGION ACCEPTABLE TREE SPECIES FOR REGIONAL ROAD ALLOWANCES

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FORESTRY  
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# ACCEPTABLE TREE SPECIES FOR REGIONAL ROAD ALLOWANCES

A minimum of 75% of planting should be selected from the proven performing lists (Tables 1 and 3).

A maximum of 25% of planting should be selected from the notable performing lists (Tables 2 and 4).

**Table 1: Proven Performing Full Form Trees**

Please refer to the York Region Street Tree and Horticultural Design Guidelines for design considerations.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Characteristics
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver maple	Fast growing and develops large crown. Native.
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Ohio buckeye	Showy flowers followed by seed husks covered in soft spines. Less susceptible to leaf scorch and leaf blotch than horsechestnut. Native.
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Common horsechestnut	Showy flowers, less seed production than Ohio buckeye, seed husks covered in soft spines. Susceptible to leaf scorch and leaf blotch.
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i>	Thornless honey locust	Open branching habits with small leaves providing filtered shade. Can be susceptible to defoliation by leafhoppers. Acceptable cultivar(s): 'Shademaster' and 'Skycole' (Skyline®).
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky coffeetree	Open branching habits with stubby twigs and large double-compound leaves with small leaflets. Dioecious tree with male and female plants; male tree preferred. Native.
<i>Ulmus 'Morton'</i>	Accolade® elm	Develops a large upright crown. Improved resilience to elm leaf beetles and Dutch Elm Disease.



**Table 2: Notable Performing Full Form Trees**

Please refer to the York Region Street Tree and Horticultural Design Guidelines for design considerations.

<b>Botanical Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
<i>Acer x freemanii</i> Autumn Blaze® 'Jeffersred'	Autumn Blaze maple	Known for its fall foliage and upright branching habits. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds. Use in locations sheltered from prevailing winds.
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Northern catalpa	Showy flowers, heart shaped leaves and an unusual form. Native.
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Common hackberry	Light green leaves and corky bark. Native. Sensitive to de-icing salts (airborne spray). Use in locations where exposure to salt spray will be minimized, e.g., wide boulevards (6 m +) on the north and west sides of roads.
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp white oak	Peeling bark when immature with shiny green leaves. Native. Sensitive to de-icing salts (airborne spray). Use in locations where exposure to salt spray will be minimized, e.g., wide boulevards (6 m+) on the north and west sides of roads.
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur oak	Unusual branching and corky twigs. Native. Sensitive to de-icing salts (airborne spray). Use in locations where exposure to salt spray will be minimized, e.g., wide boulevards (6 m+) on north and west sides of roads.
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Littleleaf linden	Dense form with small heart shaped leaves. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds and de-icing salt. Plant in locations where exposure to salt spray will be minimized, e.g., wide boulevards (6 m+) on the north & west sides of roads and in a location sheltered from prevailing winds. Acceptable cultivar(s): Glenleven and Greenspire™.
<i>Picea glauca</i>	White spruce	Pyramidal form with blue-green needles. More sensitive to desiccation from winter winds and de-icing salt than Norway spruce. Plant a minimum of 6 m from edge of road, in a sheltered location and behind sidewalk/pedestrian zone. Can be susceptible to yellow-headed spruce sawfly defoliation.
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway spruce	Fast growing with large cones and upright branches that become pendulous when mature. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds and de-icing salt. Plant a minimum of 6 m from edge of road, in a sheltered location and behind sidewalk/pedestrian zone. Fairly pest and disease resistant.
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Austrian pine	Densely branched with long, dark needles. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds and de-icing salt. Plant a minimum of 6 m from edge of road, in a sheltered location and behind sidewalk/pedestrian zone. Susceptible to Diplodia blight; select locations with good air flow and avoid mass plantings of this tree.



**Table 3: Proven Performing Small Form Trees**

Please refer to the York Region Street Tree and Horticultural Design Guidelines for design considerations.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Characteristics
<i>Syringa reticulata</i> 'Ivory Silk'	'Ivory Silk' tree lilac	Showy lilac-like blooms in early summer, followed by seed capsules that persist on the tree. Fairly pest and disease resistant.
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Hedge maple	Drought tolerant with corky bark. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds. Use in locations sheltered from prevailing winds.
<i>Acer ginnala</i>	Amur maple	Hardy small tree known for fall colours and colourful samaras. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds. Use in locations sheltered from prevailing winds. Acceptable cultivar(s): Ruby Slippers.

**Table 4: Notable Performing Small Form Trees**

Please refer to the York Region Street Tree and Horticultural Design Guidelines for design considerations.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Characteristics
<i>Acer tataricum</i>	Tatarian maple	Dense, upright crown. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds. Use in locations sheltered from prevailing winds.
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> Chanticleer®	Chanticleer ornamental pear	Evenly branched with reddish-purple fall colours. Sensitive to desiccation from winter winds. Use in locations sheltered from prevailing winds.

