

The Trees of Elon

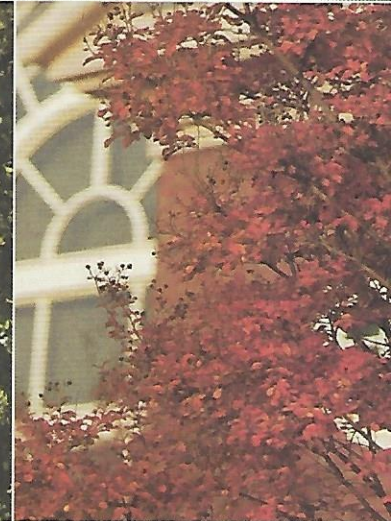
The Trees of Elon

is part of the educational mission of the
Elon University Botanical Garden. In
2004, the Elon campus was designated
a botanical garden to be planned
and maintained as an educational,
environmental and aesthetic resource.
We hope you enjoy the garden and the
horticultural diversity found on campus.



ELON
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For more information or to support the
botanical garden, call 336-278-6549.



**THE ELON UNIVERSITY
BOTANICAL GARDEN**

*An educational guide to trees on the
Elon University campus*

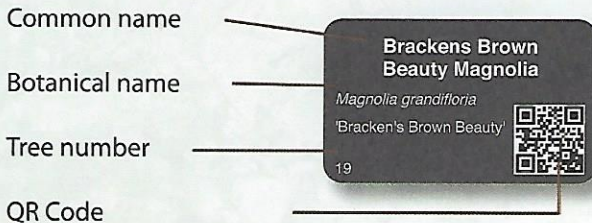
THE ELON UNIVERSITY BOTANICAL GARDEN


is located within USDA Hardiness Zone 7b and the AHS Plant Heat Zone 7.

The tree walk is located within the core of the 622-acre Elon University campus, ranging from the Alamance Building in the heart of the historic campus to the Moseley Center. The walk is 1.25 miles long and takes approximately 90 minutes to complete.

The 125 trees included on the trail are identified by sequentially numbered plaques as shown below. The numbers on the plaques correspond to the numbers in this guide. Plant labels without a number are not included in this guide.

Tree Identification Plaque Key



 Native to North Carolina

"Anyone who has a book collection and a garden wants for nothing."

— Cicero

The Trees of Elon is a publication of Elon University and the Elon University Botanical Garden.

Katsuratree

Cercidiphyllum japonicum

This Asian native is happier in the North than in our hot, dry summer but is too beautiful to resist trying. Its heart-shaped leaves emerge a reddish purple and gradually change to bluish-green in summer and yellow-apricot in the fall. Plant in a site with ample summer moisture and rich soil.

Thornless Honeylocust *Gleditsia tricanthos* var. *inermis*

The honeylocusts were once popular as a fast-growing tree, which produced a canopy of light shade. But it is highly susceptible to canker and a host of other disease and insect problems. This poor specimen is the last of six and typical of their problems. One to avoid.

Copper Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'

Like all the beeches, this purple-leafed cultivar can overwhelm you with its towering beauty when mature. European beech are more widely grown than the native American as they are more tolerant of diverse soil types.

Bradford Pear

Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'

Probably the most over-planted landscape tree of the last two decades because of its consistent pyramidal form and prolific white blooms. The Bradford Pear has weak branches and crotches and is commonly destroyed by snow, ice and wind storms. Avoid planting Bradfords there are many better cultivars.



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116 Shoals Creek Vitex *Vitex agnus-castus* 'Shoals Creek'

If this plant was used more the world would be a happier place! A shrubby, multi-stemmed tree growing 15 feet high, it is tough as nails and never fails to produce an abundance of 12- to 18-inch tall, violet-blue flower spikes from July to September. Very attractive to butterflies. What more could you ask for?

117 Loquat *Eriobotrya japonica*

Although this small tree would rather move South in the winter, it generally tolerates our winter temperatures. Let's hope it continues to as its lustrous wrinkled dark green leaves are evergreen and add a hint of summer to the winter landscape.

118 Bosque Elm *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Bosque'

This cultivar of Lacebark Elm, live up to its lineage with mottled bark exfoliating in a puzzle-like pater with colors ranging from gray-green to orange-brown. Bosque has a strong pyramidal form and ascending branches making it a premier street tree.

119 Yellowwood *Cladrastis kentuckea*

A wonderful and under-utilized native with foot-long, pendulous panicles of white flowers in late May. Smooth gray bark and yellow fall color add to its value as an ornamental. Grows to 40 feet, transplant when young in full sun.

120 Carolina Silverbell *Halsia carolina*

Perhaps one of the best native small trees for a shady habitat, it sadly is difficult to find in the nursery trade, probably because it needs to be container grown in order to transplant successfully. Prefers moist, well-drained soils high in organic matter. Small white flower clusters adorn the tree in April.

121 Tricolor Beech *Fagus sylvatica* 'Tricolor'

Anyone who has ever seen a mature specimen of this European Beech cultivar will not forget it. As its name suggests, each purple leaf is edged with rosy-pink and creamy-white bands. Smaller than the species at 30 feet, it needs ample moisture and a little afternoon shade.

Okame Cherry *Prunus* 'Okame'

An excellent cherry with an upright, vase-shaped form growing up to 30-feet high and as wide. It is fast growing and will tolerate heavy clay soil. Bountiful rosy pink blossoms last longer than most cherries.

Heritage River Birch *Betula nigra* 'Heritage'

The most popular of the river birch cultivars, Heritage is more vigorous and better suited to Southern conditions. It has a darker green leaf, good yellow fall color and superior bark coloration.

Red Maple *Acer rubrum*

A medium-sized, rapidly growing native tree, which occasionally reaches heights of 50 feet in the South. The fall color on this species is highly variable ranging from yellow to brilliant red.

Hedge Maple *Acer campestre* 'Queen Elizabeth'

The Hedge Maple is a very adaptable small tree with a dense rounded shape. The Queen Elizabeth cultivar will grow to around 30 feet. It is dark green in summer, changing to a yellow fall color.

Shantung Maple *Acer truncatum*

A very lovely small maple, its leaves emerge a reddish purple, changing to glossy dark green in summer and yellow orange in fall. It matures at 25 feet with a rounded form.

Persian Parrotia *Parrotia persica*

A collector's tree, this uncommon plant makes an excellent specimen and topic of conversation for its foliage, bark and unusual flowers and fruit. Leaves open reddish, turn dark green and change to scarlet in autumn. It is typically slow growing to 30 feet and native to Iran.

October Glory Red Maple *Acer rubrum* 'October Glory'

One of the more popular Red Maple cultivars, which holds its leaves later in the fall as they turn from an intense orange to red color. This tree has an oval- to rounded-shape crown and will grow 40 to 50 feet. One of the best red maples for fall color in the South.

8

Southern Magnolia *Magnolia grandiflora*
The queen of the Southern landscape, this large, broad-leafed evergreen needs lots of room to grow. It will reach 70 feet in height with a 40-foot spread and when covered with 8- to 12-inch white flowers in June, it is a sight to behold. Its 5-inch long red fruits ripen in November and are popular Christmas decorations.

9

Brandywine Maple *Acer rubrum 'Brandywine'*
A cultivar of Red Maple, which boasts a pronounced autumn red leaf, changing to brilliant purple-red as the season progresses.

10

Silver Maple *Acer saccharinum*
The fastest-growing native maple reaching up to 60 feet, this weak-wooded tree will often break up in wind, snow or ice storms. The tree gets its name from the silvery underside of its five-lobed leaves.

11

Autumnalis Cherry *Prunus subhirtella var autumnalis*
This is a large cherry with a gracefully weeping habit. It has semi-double, light pink flowers, which provide a marvelous display in March and sporadically throughout winter.

12

Dr. Merrill Magnolia *Magnolia x loebneri 'Merrill'*
A small deciduous multi-stemmed tree, this cold hardy star magnolia cross will grow to 25 feet and sports 3 ½-inch white flowers in March.

13

Yoshino Cherry *Prunus x yedoensis*
This is the species that graces the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C. It is spectacular in full bloom, covered with pink to white blooms. Grows to 30 feet with a rounded and spreading outline.

14

Weeping Nootka Falsecypress *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis 'Pendula'*
This species is a challenge for Southern gardeners as it thrives with abundant soil and atmospheric moisture and is happier in the Mountains than the Piedmont. Pendula is the beautiful and graceful weeping form.

Nellie R. Stevens Holly *Ilex x 'Nellie R. Stevens'*
One of the best hollies for the Southern states, the 'Nellie R.' has a dense and pyramidal growth habit reaching 20- to 25-feet high. Lustrous, dark green leaves and abundant fruit make this a favorite. Just give it room to grow.

Emerald Green Arborvitae *Thuja occidentalis 'Smaragd'*

Another narrow columnar evergreen, this arborvitae is an excellent architectural plant where verticality is needed. Growing only 4-feet wide by 15-feet high, it maintains a dark green color nicely year round.

Loblolly Pine *Pinus taeda*
This native pine is the leading commercial timber species in the Southern United States. It's not a graceful pine but very adaptable and fast growing. Loblolly means low wet place. Identified by 9-inch long needles in bundles of three.

Purple Robe Locust *Robinia pseudoacacia 'Purple Robe'*
This Black Locust cultivar has all the toughness and thorns as the species but is an absolute show-stopper in May with 8-inch long, rose-purple flower clusters. Its rounded form will reach 35 feet but will always be fairly course textured.

Swamp White Oak *Quercus bicolor*
As its common name suggests, this member of the white oak family is often found in swampy or bottomlands but its tolerance to low oxygen soils makes it a good tree in heavy clay or compacted urban soils. Easier to transplant than White Oak.

Redbud *Cercis canadensis 'Rising Sun'*
A new introduction with outstanding leaf color. New leaves emerge orange, develop into a bright yellow, yellow-green and finally maturing into light green. Of course, that foliar display is preceded by the wonderful rose-red flowers typical to redbuds.

Alta Southern Magnolia *Magnolia grandiflora 'Alta'*
One of the smallest Southern Magnolia cultivars, Alta grows only 8-feet wide and 20-feet tall, yet still boasts the huge white flowers and red fruits of the much larger species (#8).

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American Beech*Fagus grandifolia*

Few trees create the impression of a majestic mature American Beech. This slow-growing giant with magnificent smooth gray bark gives the impression of sinewy arms extending upwards and into the earth. Resplendent golden-yellow fall color make it stand out in the forest where its beechnuts are relished by deer and turkeys.

103

Crabapple*Malus floribunda*

Hundreds of crabapple cultivars exist and the identity of this specimen has fallen into obscurity. However, it is typical of the majority of them, small to mid-sized, beautiful in flower and suffers from fireblight, rust and scab diseases. Happily, there are many new disease resistant cultivars like 'Prarifire' (#90), which do well in the landscape.

104

Japanese Apricot*Prunus mume 'Peggy Clarke'*

Promoted by the late J.C. Raulson of NCSU, this Japanese native is the first bloomer in the spring landscape, sporting prolific deep rose blooms in February. Growing only to 25 feet, it is also one of the toughest trees available.

105

Chanticleer Pear*Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer'*

Like its relative the Bradford Pear, this cultivar has the masses of white flowers, dense growth habit and good purplish fall color, but it has a stronger branching structure. It is narrower in form and is a superior choice for the landscape.

106

Sweetbay Magnolia*Magnolia virginiana*

A graceful small specimen tree growing to 15 feet, the native is semi-evergreen and its leaves have a silvery underside. Not overwhelming but abundant with 2- to 3-inch white lemon-scented flowers.

107

Fosters Holly*Ilex x attenuata 'Fosteri'*

A once popular landscape tree, this holly will grow 20 feet and produces persistent abundant fruit. It does not have the nice density or lushness of other hollies.

108

Snakebark Maple*Acer x conspicuum 'Phoenix'*

With the name Phoenix, how could we resist? This unusual striped maple will grow to 30 feet with outstanding red-orange bark. A collector's tree that is a real eye-catcher.

Allee Elm*Ulmus parvifolia 'Allee'*

This cultivar has an upright spreading form with an outline similar to the American Elm, but is not susceptible to Dutch elm disease. Its bark exfoliates in a beautiful pattern revealing a variety of colors from light gray to orange brown.

Scholar-tree*Sophora japonica*

A fast-growing large tree known primarily for its creamy white, 12-inch flowers from July into August. However, it does not flower for several years after planting. This species is well suited for tough conditions but may also suffer from canker and other diseases.

Deodar Cedar*Cedrus deodara*

This large (50-foot) noble evergreen with graceful, pendulous branches leave an indelible impression as a mature plant. Distinguished easily by the whorls of silvery green needles that adorn its branches.

Oakland Holly*Ilex 'Magland'*

A narrowly pyramidal red holly with spiny leaves, Oakland will mature about 12-feet tall and 6-feet wide with minimal pruning. Perfect as an architectural accent plant.

Bracken's Brown Beauty Magnolia*Magnolia grandiflora 'Bracken's Brown Beauty'*

One of the best cultivars of the popular species with a rusty brown pubescences on the underside of the leaf contrasting with its glossy dark green top. Compact and dense growth habit.

Trident Maple*Acer buergerianum*

A mid-size maple growing to 30 feet, which develops an interesting peeling bark. Leaves emerge a bronze color, which change to dark green in summer. Fall color varies from yellow to orange and red.

Cornealiancherry Dogwood*Cornus mas 'Golden Glory'*

Another harbinger of spring, this member of the dogwood family is outstanding for its prolific display of small yellow flowers in March, which last for up to three weeks. Small red fruits follow in July.

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Chinese Fringetree*Chionanthus retusus*

This China native prospers in the heat of the South. Growing to 25 feet, it produces 3- to 4-inch upright panicles of white flowers, which give the plant its feathery or fringed appearance. Dark blue fall fruit and gray bark add to its ornamental qualities.

23

Black Oak*Quercus velutina*

A large native oak with an irregular crown. A member of the red oak group, it is one of the most common natives in the Eastern U.S. Difficult to transplant due to its large taproot.

24

Regal Prince Oak*Quercus x warei 'Long'*

A somewhat narrow, columnar oak that will grow 20-foot wide by 40-foot tall. Perfect for a more narrow space where the qualities of an oak are desirable.

25

Emperor I Japanese Maple*Acer palmatum var. atropurpureum 'Emperor I'*

This red-leafed Japanese maple holds its leaf color in the Southern heat well and turns a brilliant scarlet red fall color. A delightful small lawn tree growing 15 to 20 feet. A good substitute for the standard Bloodgood cultivar.

26

Jane Magnolia*Magnolia x 'Jane'*

This multi-stemmed small tree is another deciduous magnolia, which reveals its gray architectural bark and large fuzzy buds in the winter. Easily mistaken with the Saucer Magnolia, Jane produce large reddish-purple blooms, but two weeks later avoiding bloom damage from late frosts. Matures at 15 feet.

27

Tamukeyama Japanese Maple*Acer palmatum var. dissectum atropurpureum 'Tamukeyama'*

One of the best purple-leaved, cut leaf Japanese maples. The young foliage emerges crimson-red and matures to a consistent red-purple. A slow-growing dwarf that might reach 13 feet in 100 years. Let us know how this one turns out!

28

Liberty Holly*Ilex 'Conty'*

This red holly with very serrated, dark green leaves and dense pyramidal growth holds its form well without pruning and will mature 8-foot wide and 14-foot tall.

Redbud*Cercis canadensis*

One of the most beautiful native ornamental trees, the redbud graces the woodlands of the South with its rosy pink to red flowers in April. A small and hardy ornamental growing 20 to 30 feet.

London Planetree*Platanus x acerifolia*

This individual tree is indicative of the common confusion of seed-grown tree cultivars in the industry. Sold as a London Planetree, it does have the characteristic central leader, patchy light-colored ornamental bark and pyramidal form of this hybrid. But this tree produces one fruit per stalk, more typical of the Common Sycamore, *Platanus occidentalis*. Which is it?

Full Moon Maple*Acer japonicum 'Aconitifolium'*

An unusual tree, especially in the South, this small bushy maple grows to 10 feet. The leaves emerge a soft green and change to a magnificent crimson red in the fall. Definitely a collector's tree.

Japanese Zelkova*Zelkova serrota*

A mid-sized tree growing to 40 feet or more, distinctive for its strongly vase-shaped growth habit. A member of the elm family, it has elm-shaped leaves and attractive smooth, gray bark.

Lace Leaf Japanese Maple*Acer palmatum var. dissectum atropurpureum*

Another fine Japanese maple with deep red leaves, but this one's leaves are very deeply cut with the appearance of ferny foliage. Slow growing, it matures at 8 feet and maintains a mounded and pendulous form.

Saucer Magnolia*Magnolia soulangiana*

Arguably the showiest early-flowering tree in the spring, if the blooms are not burned by frost. Its white to pink flowers are 5- to 10-inches across and cover the tree before the leaves emerge. Grows 20 to 30 feet with handsome gray bark

Golden-larch*Pseudolarix amabilis*

A deciduous conifer, this slow grower might reach 30 feet in a lifetime. More tolerant to Southern heat than most larches, this native of China is known for its outstanding golden-yellow fall color before its needles drop in early November.

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Lacebark Elm*Ulmus parvifolia*

Its bark, which is mottled and exfoliates in irregular patches exposing the lighter colored bark beneath, is its major ornamental value. It is a tough tree adaptable to urban environments and should not be confused with the inferior *Ulmus pumila*, Siberian Elm. Will grow to 40 feet or more with a graceful rounded head.

Hornbeam*Carpinus caroliniana*

A mid-sized native, which typically grows in the understory of the forest. Also known as Musclewood or Ironwood due to both the strength and the muscular appearance of its wood.

Prairifire Crabapple*Malus 'Prairifire'*

Introduced in 1982, this cultivar is highly resistant to the many diseases that make growing crabapples a frustrating exercise. The flowers on this cultivar are red to reddish purple.

Pecan*Carya illinoensis*

Our native pecan is valued for its edible fruits and as a specialty lumber. However, its use as a landscape tree is limited because it produces a high volume of litter, has a coarse texture and suffers from insect and disease problems.

Black Walnut*Juglans nigra*

The Black Walnut is highly prized for its dark brown wood and a large veneer quality log can bring a considerable price. Its tasty nuts are hard to get harvested. Identified by its deeply furrowed, dark-brown bark and pinnately compound leaves.

Common Persimmon*Diospyros virginiana*

An interesting mid-sized native tree rarely found in urban locations. Most easily identified by its deeply furrowed, blocky, almost black bark. Its large, yellow-orange edible fruits, persimmons, are valued by wildlife and people who cook with lots of sugar. Fall color is a beautiful reddish purple.

Mockernut Hickory*Carya tomentosa*

A very common hickory, which annually produces a large crop of small hickory nuts valued by wildlife. However, that abundance of mess and lack of other ornamental value limits its landscape use.

American Basswood*Tilia Americana*

Also known as Linden, this stately native will grow 60 to 80 feet. Its typical pyramidal shape is not displayed in this specimen due to the shade competition from surrounding oaks. Its wood is valued for furniture, wooden ware and carving.

Patriot Holly*Ilex 'Conot'*

Yet another small columnar red holly, this one is more loose in form and has deeply serrated leaves. A good berry producer it will mature 6-feet wide and 12-feet tall.

Japanese Cornel Dogwood*Cornus officinalis*

This yellow flowering, small ornamental tree is a thing of great beauty in March. However, the rich gray-, brown- and orange-colored bark is attractive all year and it abounds with red fruits in September.

Littleleaf Linden*Tilia cordata 'Greenspire'*

This Linden sports smaller leaves than its cousin and is best known for its tightly pyramidal shape, which it holds well into maturity. Supposedly reaching 60 feet and adaptable, it makes a good shade tree with yellow fall color.

Goldenraintree*Koeleruteria paniculata*

A fast-growing tree reaching 30 to 40 feet with a rounded outline. Its predominate ornamental value is its very showy, foot-long yellow flowers in July. Adaptable and vigorous, a good mid-size tree, but its many seeds sprout easily in mulched areas.

Weeping Blue Atlas Cedar*Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca Pendula'*

Definitely an eye-catcher, this weeping evergreen with bluish needles stands out among the Ent-ish crowd. Each tree is unique in form but will mature roughly 15 to 20 feet in height and width. Slow growing.

Sourwood*Oxydendrum arboretum*

Another excellent small native, the Sourwood displays early fall color occasional with yellow, red and purple on the same tree. Large panicles of white flowers can cover the entire tree in June. An excellent specimen plant but hard to find.

36

Ironwood*Ostrya virginiana*

This native is a slow-growing, small tree eventually reaching 25 to 30 feet that presents a graceful branching habit and rounded form. It will grow in full sun or partial shade and prefers a drier environment.

37

Star Magnolia*Magnolia stellata*

Another harbinger of early spring, the star magnolia is extremely hardy and will grow as far north as Maine. Named for its star-shaped white and fragrant flowers, which are 3 to 4 inches in diameter. A small multi-stemmed tree growing to 15 feet or more.

38

Purple Smoketree*Cotinus coggygia* 'Royal Purple'

A small tree growing to 15 feet that gets its name from the hairs on the flower panicles that give the plant the appearance of being smoky when in bloom. The foliage of this cultivar emerges as a rich maroon red and darkens to purplish black.

39

River Birch*Betula nigra*

This handsome native tree tolerates wet planting sites where other trees fail. Somewhat pendulous in form, it will grow 40 to 50 feet, but its main ornamental contribution is its distinctive white and peeling bark. This tree will drop leaves during summer drought conditions.

40

Green Mountain Sugar Maple*Acer saccharum* 'Green Mountain'

A cultivar that is more heat tolerant than the species and performs better in the South. A large tree with an upright, oval crown, which grows a foot per year. Fall color varies from yellow to red.

41

Japanese Maple 'Atropurpureum'*Acer palmatum* var. *atropurpureum*

A highly ornamental and hardy tree, the Japanese Maple is one of the most popular maples with more than 150 cultivars. The 'Atropurpureum' is a basic variety, which will grow to 25 feet and has hand-shaped leaves that emerge red, fade to green during the summer and return to a glorious red for fall.

Pin Oak*Quercus palustris*

The most commonly used native oak for landscaping, the Pin Oak has a pyramidal shape and has a strong central leader and is fast growing to 60 feet. However, its lower branches are pendulous and require constant removal to create a canopy. It can also suffer from chlorosis in high pH soils.

Black Gum*Nyssa sylvatica*

A beautiful native tree, which deserves wider landscape planting. It maintains a very pyramidal form when young, if grown in the open, will have a rounded, 50-foot crown when mature. It may have the best fall color of all trees in the South with orange to scarlet to purple leaves.

Sugar Hackberry*Celtis laevigata*

A large native shade tree usually found in the wild in floodplains, it will also tolerate urban conditions and compacted soils. No outstanding ornamental features beyond its size, shade and toughness.

Sawtooth Oak*Quercus acutissima*

Named for its long, narrow, and sharp-toothed leaves, the Sawtooth Oak is a handsome, mid-sized tree. It is easily grown, transplants well and without serious problems. The cap of its acorn is covered with distinctive long, recurring scales.

Chinese Pistache*Pistacia chinensis*

Brilliant orange and red fall color, freedom from pests and the ability to withstand poor soils and droughty conditions are this tree's reimbursement for its gawky growth habit when young.

Ginkgo*Ginkgo biloba*

Large, hardy, adaptable with excellent bright yellow fall color, the Ginkgo should be more widely used. However, this genus has both male and female trees, and only the males should be planted as the fruit is extremely malodorous. Native to China, its medicinal value has been known for centuries and it has gained popularity for treating middle-aged memory loss. Please don't eat the leaves.

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Post Oak*Quercus stellata*

The three-lobed leaves of the post oak are recognizable by their cross shape. A common tree in dry or rocky sites in our North Carolina woodlands but seldom planted as a landscape tree. This is one of the many native trees in the old campus that likely pre-dated the university.

76

Galaxy Magnolia*Magnolia 'Galaxy'*

Galaxy is a relatively new hybrid introduced by the U.S. National Arboretum. Pyramidal with a central single trunk it will grow to 30 feet. It flowers later in the spring than the frost-sensitive magnolias with 6- to 10-inch red-purple flowers. It is a deciduous magnolia.

77

Red Horsechestnut*Aesculus x carnea*

Please don't drive off the road when you see the 8-inch long rose-red flower covering this tree in May! Maturing at 35 feet this horsechestnut hybrid has all the hardiness of its family, and it is typically grown just for its stunning floral display.

78

Redbud*Cercis canadensis 'Appalachian Spring'*

A selection of our native redbud with stunning fuchsia-pink to red flowers, which seem to make this tree glow in the dark. Medium size and yellow fall color typical of all the species.

79

Chestnut Oak*Quercus prinus*

Another large oak with a pyramidal growth habit in youth, becoming rather rounded and dense in age, like many of us. It does well in dry and rocky soils and transplants easily. Acorns are sweet and relished by wildlife.

80

Princeton American Elm *Ulmus americana 'Princeton'*

Another cultivar competing to be the heir apparent to the great American Elm decimated by Dutch elm disease in the '60s and '70s. With the traditional fast growth and vase shape of the species, Princeton shows a high resistance to the disease and may just become the next great elm.

81

Homestead Elm*Ulmus x 'Homestead'*

A fast-growing hybrid elm resistant to the Dutch elm disease, which virtually eliminated the native American Elm's existence.

Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry*Amelanchier arborea 'Autumn Brilliance'*

A small tree that grows to 25 feet, it sports white flowers, edible fruits and brilliant red fall color. Folklore holds that its early spring bloom was a sign to pioneers that the ground had thawed enough to bury their dead and have the service.

Natchez Crape Myrtle *Lagerstroemia indica 'Natchez'*

Probably the most easily identifiable of the crape myrtle cultivars because of its cinnamon-brown mottled bark, pure white blooms and excellent orange-red fall color.

Greensboro Red Camillia*Camillia japonica 'Greensboro Red'*

Although a native of Asia, the Camillias traditionally grace Southern gardens and are prized for their glossy, evergreen leaves and large blooms in winter to early spring. This locally developed cultivar, boasts large, double-red blooms in March, and a pyramidal form eventually reaching 25 feet.

Willow Oak*Quercus phellos*

This over-planted native tree is remarkable only for its fast growth and adaptability. It is weak wooded and easily damaged by ice. Its profuse suckers eventually die and litter the ground. Abundant willow-like leaves and shallow roots make growing grass under it difficult. Those who recommend this tree have never had to maintain it. Compare it with the White Oak to the north.

White Oak*Quercus alba*

The absolute king of the forest, this native towers over the other oaks in size, age and beauty. Its open crown and wide-spreading branches reveal its distinctive, scaly gray bark. Although hard to transplant and slow growing, it will reach more than 100 feet in height and will easily last a century. This specimen was likely here when Elon University was founded. This is the species that inspired Elon's logo.

Kwanzan Cherry*Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan'*

A wonderful specimen with deep pink and abundant double petals flowers in April. Its new leaves are bronzy, fall color is orange bronze and its bark is an attractive reddish brown. A fast grower to 25 feet but unfortunately short-lived like many cherries.

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Crimson King Norway Maple*Acer platanoides* 'Crimson King'

This once popular landscape tree has maroon leaves, a rounded form and will reach 50 feet in height. However, it is not well adapted to the South and is attractive to Japanese beetles, which make planting it less attractive.

49

Cherrybark Oak*Quercus falcate var. pagodifolia*

A variety of the Southern Red Oak (#55) this has most of the same characteristics but is named for its cherry-like bark; blackish, checked and scaly.

50

Oklahoma Redbud*Cercis canadensis* 'Oklahoma'

A cultivar that boasts a better display of deep pink to red flowers than the native redbud. Leaves are also glossier and darker.

51

Dawn Redwood*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*

Fossilized leaves of this species were discovered but living specimens were not known until 1941 when discovered in one location in China. Since then they have become popular specimens around the world. Its leaves and bark are similar to both true redwoods and the Bald Cypress. It is deciduous like the latter.

52

Green Ash*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*

A large shade tree, which has been widely used because it is very adaptable, transplants easily and grows fast. It is bereft of significant ornamental characteristics but has many improved cultivars, which offer a selection of good fall color and seedless production.

53

American Holly*Ilex opaca*

A large, slow-growing native holly, which will grow 40 to 50 feet. This densely pyramidal tree with spiny, medium green leaves and persistent red fruits has spawned more than 1,000 cultivars. The branches and berries are a favorite for Christmas decorations, but male plants must be present to pollinate the females.

54

Swamp Chestnut Oak*Quercus michauxii*

Very difficult to distinguish from Chestnut Oak, leaves are more pubescent on the underside. It has bark and valuable wood like the White Oak but this one transplants readily.

Overcup Oak*Quercus lyrata*

Named for the oversize cup that covers much of its acorn, this member of the white oak group transplants much easier than the White Oak species (#46) and maintains all the desirable characteristics of that species.

Japanese Stewartia*Stewartia pseudocamilla*

A magnificent mid-sized tree with a pyramidal form growing to 30 feet or more. Two-inch white flowers in July are followed by a unique, hairy capsule fruit and red to purplish fall color. Its bark is beautiful all year, exfoliating to create a patchwork quilt effect.

Paperbark Maple*Acer griseum*

An under-used species with unrivaled aesthetic qualities. As the name suggests, its most outstanding feature is its exfoliated cinnamon to reddish brown bark making it one standout specimen in the winter landscape. Prefers full sun and moist but well-drained soils but will tolerate clay.

Vernal Witchhazel*Hamamelis vernalis*

A very small tree or large shrub, which reaches 10 to 12 feet. The most unique feature of the witchhazels is its early yellow flowers, often blooming in January. But do not overlook its beautiful golden-yellow late fall color.

Yellow Ribbon Arborvitae*Thuja occidentalis* 'Yellow Ribbon'

A small columnar evergreen, growing to 4-feet wide by 10-feet high that distinguishes itself from the Emerald Green cultivar by its yellow new growth. Don't be alarmed in the winter when it turns bronze green.

Sugar Maple*Acer saccharum*

This is the tree that produces the maple syrup we love. Native in the Western mountains of North Carolina, this Northern favorite does not tolerate the Southern heat well and will not attain the magnificent size, stature and fall color that it does in the North.

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Bur Oak*Quercus macrocarpa*

Macrocarpa means large fruit in Latin and this oak lives up to its name. The acorn is up to 1 ½ inches long with a cap that is conspicuously fringed on the margin and nearly encompasses the fruit. It also has macro leaves up to 12-inches long and a macro size to 100 feet tall.

63

Japanese Snowbell*Styrax japonicus*

A small tree worthy of more ornamental use. White, pendulous, bell-shaped flowers in May give the effect of a delicate flowering tree. This species is low branched and should be given space to grow but kept close enough to enjoy.

64

Skylands Oriental Spruce *Picea orientalis 'Skylands'*

Like many spruces this one would prefer to live in the mountains but will grow slowly in our Southern heat. A more compact form of the species, this one is renown for its golden-yellow needles, which add to its ornamental form.

65

Seven-Son Flower*Heptacodium miconioides*

An unusual small tree with an irregular form and great foliage, it is named for its whorl of seven small, creamy white flowers in late August followed by a beautiful small rose-purple fruit.

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Nuttall Oak*Quercus nuttallii*

This species is a good replacement for pin oak and Shumard Oak in the landscape due to its superior adaptability, reddish new growth and fall color. Rapid growth and complete leaf drop in autumn.

67

Live Oak*Quercus virginiana*

A native evergreen oak, this tree keeps its thick, glossy leaves through the winter. It is on the edge of its range in the North Carolina Piedmont and does not grow to the size or have the long life span that it does farther south. Not hardy in Western North Carolina.

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Scarlet Oak*Quercus coccinea*

Nearly indistinguishable from many other red oak species such as Nuttallii, this species is known for its scarlet fall color. Like many oaks, there is wide variation among the species with some trees showing a more russet red to reddish brown. Grows in an upright form to 70 feet.

Southern Red Oak*Quercus falcata*

This native oak does well on our drier and poorer Piedmont solids. It is easily identified by its large, three-lobed leaves that remind one of a turkey's foot.

Kousa Dogwood*Cornus kousa*

Introduced in 1875, this native of Asia has a better growth habit, more attractive bark and none of the many pest problems of our native flowering dogwood. Its creamy white flowers appear two to three weeks after the native blooms. It does not like wet feet.

Flowering Dogwood*Cornus florida*

An all-time favorite in the Southeast, the white flowers of this dogwood typically bloom in April. Legend has it that Jesus was crucified on a cross made of the dogwood and ever since that time, the tree has produced cross-shaped white flowers on Easter.

Chinafir*Cunninghamia lanceolata*

A native of China introduced in 1804, this fir-like tree can grow more than 100 feet. It makes an interesting specimen in the warmer parts of the country. In China it is highly prized for its light, soft, pale-yellow and rot-resistant wood. It is easily worked and used for everything from construction to coffins.

Shumard Oak*Quercus shumardii*

The Shumard Oak is similar to both the scarlet and red oaks and difficult for the novice to distinguish. It transplants easily, is drought tolerant and has one of the better fall colors varying from yellow-bronze to red.

Northern Red Oak*Quercus rubra*

Happier in the mountains, this tree is not too common in Central and Eastern North Carolina. It has one of the more symmetrical shapes when mature. Another fast-growing oak, it can average 2 feet a year but does not attain the massive size it does farther north.

Ivory Silk Japanese Tree Lilac*Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk'*

Beautiful white lilac flowers on a tree? Yes, this specimen plant produces 12-inch long white flowers in mid-May when many plants are done blooming. It will grow 20 to 25 feet quickly and develop a rounded form.

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McEwen Dining Hall

McEwen