



COMMEMORATIVE TREE PROGRAM

TREE SPECIES SELECTION

JACK PINE

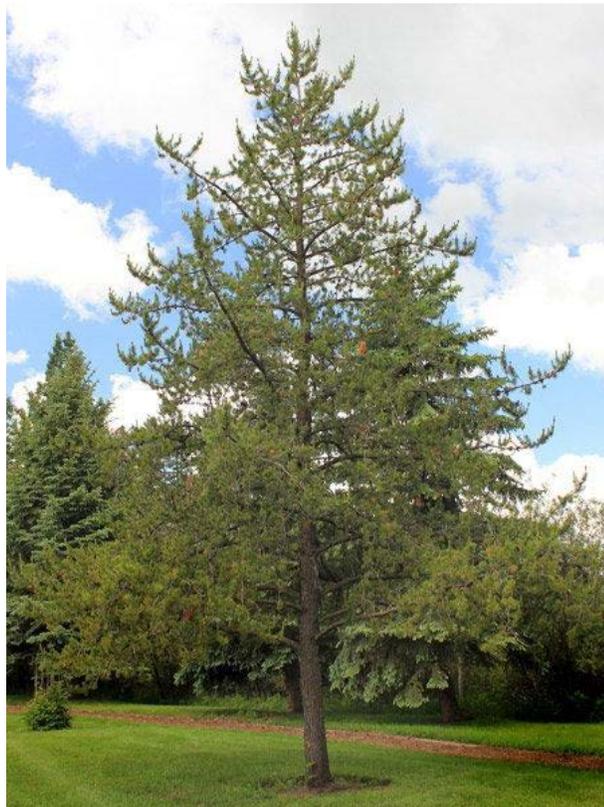
Pinus banksiana

ALBERTA NATIVE TREE SPECIES

Jack pines tend to have straight trunks with long, spreading branches that form an open-ragged crown. Their cones are serotinous, meaning they mainly open in the heart of a forest fire. Its heat-dependent cones allow it to reproduce quickly, making it a pioneer species following a fire. Fossil evidence indicates that the jack pine survived the glacial period.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Small tree, up to 20m high and 30cm in diameter.
- **Needles:** Evergreen in bundles of 2.
- **Cones:** Curved inward at the tip.
- **Habitat:** Full sun. Tolerates a wide variety of soils, including dry, sandy sites. Does not tolerate consistently wet soils.
- **Other:** Live up to approximately 150 yrs.





LOGEPOLE PINE

Pinus contorta var. Latifolia

ALBERTA NATIVE TREE SPECIES

The lodgepole pine is Alberta's provincial tree. Primarily located throughout Western Canada, it is highly adaptable with a tall, narrow shape. Used by Indigenous Peoples in many practices, its name is derived from the homes they built from the strong-dense wood.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 20m tall and 4m wide, with a maximum height of 25m.
- **Needles:** Stiff and twisted in bundles of two, dark-green to yellow-green.
- **Cones:** Vary in shape and may remain on the branches for many years.
- **Habitat:** Highly adaptable tree that grows in a number of different environments. Prefers average to dry soils that are well-drained. Does not tolerate consistently wet soils. Requires full sun.



PONDEROSA PINE

Pinus ponderosa

The ponderosa pine is an impressive tree with its large size and year-round colour provided by its thick, orange-brown bark and long, yellowish-green needles. On hot days, the bark is said to have a vanilla-like smell. The ponderosa pine is a long-lived tree, living up to approximately 500 years in the wild.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** May reach nearly 70m tall in the wild. When grown in Alberta it is more likely to reach a maximum height of approximately 12m with a spread of 5m.
- **Needles:** Long (12-25cm), stiff but flexible, dark yellowish-green, growing in bundles of three.
- **Cones:** 7-14cm long, oval shaped with rigid prickles on the cone scales.
- **Habitat:** Requires full sun. Intolerant of poorly drained soils. Prefers a site with deep, moist, well-drained soil. Drought tolerant once established.





SCOTS (SCOTCH) PINE

Pinus sylvestris

The Scots pine tree is the most widely distributed pine tree in the world! Ranging from the high Arctic to Central Asia, its growth is straight; however, in North America, it has a crooked form. Its most notable feature is its papery, orange-red bark, which contrasts nicely with its deep green-coloured needles. Its sprawling branches and crooked form create drama in any landscape.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 15m tall and 8m wide with a twisted form in North America.
- **Needles:** Pointy and twisted in bundles of two, about 4-8cm in length, green in colour.
- **Cones:** Point backwards with a fairly pointed tip, maturing within 2-3 years.
- **Bark:** Showy, flaky, papery, distinctive orange-red to scaly grey.
- **Habitat:** Adaptable, ranging from high Arctic latitudes to central Asian deserts. Prefers acidic, moist, well-drained soils. Tolerates a variety of soils, so long as the soil is well-drained. Requires full sun.





SWISS STONE PINE *Pinus cembra*

The Swiss stone pine is a very slow-growing tree predominantly found throughout the mountains of Europe. Its growth pattern is columnar with dense upright branching that tends to hold onto its lower branches. When compared to other pines, their shape and needles are different in appearance and size. Swiss stones can survive in extremely cold and windy conditions.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 10m tall and 5m wide with a pyramidal symmetrical shape.
- **Needles:** Soft to the touch, bundles of five, 3" long, blue-green to light green.
- **Cones:** Violet brown, do not open on the tree, tight bound, 3" long.
- **Habitat:** Native to European Mountains and parts of Asia. Prefers sites with good air circulation, full sun and well-drained soils with medium moisture. Can tolerate light shade.





TAMARACK LARCH *Larix laricina*

ALBERTA NATIVE TREE SPECIES

Tamaracks are found in every province and territory of Canada and are the official tree of the Northwest Territories. Larch trees are noted for being deciduous conifers, meaning all their needles drop in the fall. Tamaracks are frequently planted for landscape purposes because of their pleasing form and soft green foliage that turns brilliant yellow in autumn.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Medium-sized trees, up to 25m high, 40cm diameter. The trunk is usually slender and straight.
- **Needles:** Deciduous, very soft and flexible. Leaves (needles) appear earlier in the spring than most other deciduous species.
- **Cones:** Seed cones are ovoid and remain intact on the tree for some months after maturing.
- **Habitat:** Prefers sites with full sun and acidic soils that are moist and well-drained. Tolerates light shade and some standing water. Does not tolerate dry soils.
- **Other:** Live up to approximately 150 years.





WHITE SPRUCE

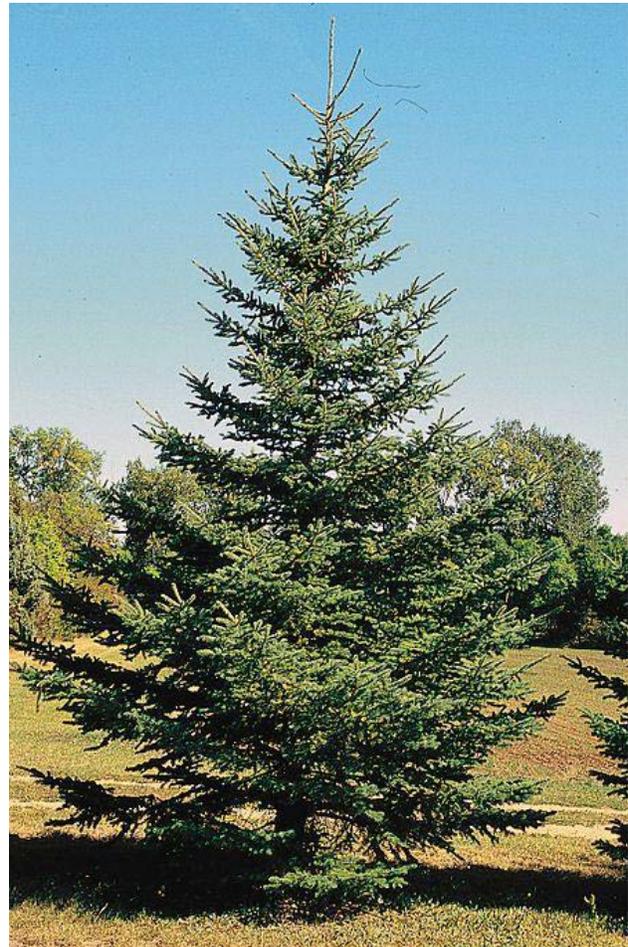
Picea glauca

ALBERTA NATIVE TREE SPECIES

The white spruce is a hardy tree common to northern temperate and boreal forests in North America. Found in all forested regions of Canada except the West Coast, the white spruce is the provincial tree of Manitoba and is frequently planted for landscape and forestry purposes.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Medium Size trees - up to 25m high and 60cm in diameter.
- **Needles:** Bluish-green.
- **Cones:** Cylindrical, with rounded, smooth-edged scales.
- **Habitat:** Occurs in various types of soils. Prefers sites with good air circulation, full sun and moist, well-drained soils. Tolerates light shade and dry soils.





COLORADO SPRUCE

Picea pungens

Colorado spruce trees are easily identifiable by their stunning silver-blue-green colour, tall, broad pyramidal shape and thick branching system that reaches the ground. This tree is known for its resilience to withstand harsh conditions due to its widespread canopy and relatively deep roots. It is a slow-growing, long-lived tree that provides shelter for a number of different types of wildlife throughout North America.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 15m tall and 5m wide, widespread canopy amongst spruce.
- **Needles:** Rigid, stiff and prickly with unique silver blue-green colour year-round.
- **Cones:** Concentrated high in the canopy, hanging downward.
- **Habitat:** Prefers sites with full sun and rich, acidic, moist soils that are well-drained. Somewhat drought tolerant once established. Does not tolerate standing water. Tolerates light shade.





AMERICAN BASSWOOD (LINDEN)

Tilia americana

The linden tree is easily identifiable by its strong pyramid shape, large heart-shaped leaves, and fragrant clustered yellow flowers. In the summer, when in bloom, a soft humming can be heard from the trees as the bees collect nectar from the flowers. Linden trees are well known for their medicinal properties and malleable wood, used to create elegant basswood carvings.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 20m tall and 12m wide, pyramidal shape and dense canopy.
- **Leaves:** Heart shaped, coarsely toothed, summer dark green and fall pale yellow.
- **Flowers:** Buttery yellow, star shaped clusters, fragrance of honey and lemon peel.
- **Wood:** Tough, pale brown to nearly white, used to make ropes, rugs and carvings.
- **Habitat:** Prefers loam soils that are fertile, moist and well-drained. Can be grown in full sun to part shade. Somewhat drought tolerant.





LITTLELEAF LINDEN

Tilia cordata

The littleleaf linden has almost identical features to the American basswood except that the littleleaf is smaller at maturity, has smaller leaves, and the bark has an orange undertone with no defined ridges. The littleleaf linden is native to much of Europe, whereas the American linden is native to the central and southeastern United States.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 15m tall and 10m wide, pyramidal shape and dense canopy.
- **Leaves:** Heart shaped, coarsely toothed, summer dark green and fall pale yellow.
- **Flowers:** Buttery yellow star shaped clusters, fragrance of honey and lemon peel.
- **Habitat:** Prefers loam soils that are fertile, moist and well-drained. Capable of adapting to a wide range of soil conditions. Can be grown in full sun to part shade.





BUR OAK

Quercus macrocarpa

The bur oak is a majestic beauty! It is a slow growing oak and has the potential to live a very long life when planted in an ideal location. It is a sun-loving tree with an attractive widespread canopy that provides food for wildlife. Bur oaks are known to have the largest acorns of any oak in North America. Symbolizing strength, a mature bur oak is a truly breathtaking sight.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 20m tall and 18m wide, very large canopy spread.
- **Leaves:** Large leaf lobes, fall bronze colour, may remain on the tree into winter.
- **Fruit:** Acorns 2-3cm long with a pointed tip and a burr-like fringe.
- **Habitat:** Prefers loam soils that are moist and well-drained. Capable of adapting to a wide range of soil conditions. Is a hardy species with good drought and salt tolerant.





OHIO BUCKEYE *Aesculus glabra*

The Ohio buckeye is a tree that will stand out in the landscape with its large, palmate leaves and clusters of greenish-yellow flowers. This is a slow growing tree that can live up to 60 or more years. The common name refers to the resemblance of the tree's fruit to the eye of a buck deer.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 6-12m tall and 6 m wide, with a dense, rounded canopy.
- **Leaves:** Palmate shaped with 5 to 7 leaflets that are each 8-15cm long and 2.5-6cm wide and connected to a long stock. Leaves are green in the summer and become orangish-yellow in the fall.
- **Bark:** Young trees have smooth, grey bark that matures to become rougher and darker grey.
- **Flowers:** Grow in large (10-18cm long), showy clusters near the tips of branches. They are greenish-yellow with orange-red down the middle.
- **Fruit:** One to two nuts contained in a spiny, 2-5cm diameter capsule. The nuts are brown with a large, pale spot. The nuts are inedible and can be a bit messy.
- **Habitat:** Full sun to light shade. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Foliage tends to scorch in dry conditions.





JAPANESE LILAC (IVORY SILK) *Syringa reticulata*

The Japanese lilac tree typically blooms in the summer months providing flowers in the landscape after most other flowering trees have finished blooming. With its lush dark green leaves, the contrast of the beautifully fragrant flowers is a spectacular sight. Known as an award-winning ornamental tree, it attracts butterflies when in bloom, has a stunning cherry red-brown bark, and barely/rarely changes leaf colour in fall.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 6m tall and 5m wide, dense, oval-shaped canopy.
- **Leaves:** Lanceolate to ovate shaped, dark green, rarely changing colour in fall.
- **Flowers:** Traditional lilac flowers - fragrant, creamy white, and panicle shaped.
- **Bark:** Beautiful reddish-brown to steel-grey coloured bark.
- **Habitat:** Prefers sites with good air circulation, full sun and soils that are slightly acidic, moist, and well-drained. Tolerates light shade. Does not tolerate dry soils.





SPRING SNOW CRABAPPLE *Malus x 'Spring Snow'*

The spring snow crabapple is a fruitless crabapple tree with a dense oval canopy that produces showy white flowers (snow-like) with a sweet fragrance in early spring. When in full bloom, the spring snow is breathtaking. The white flowers contrast with the dark green leaves, with hints of pink from the emergent shells, and when the flowers begin to shed their petals, it looks as if it is snowing.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 8m tall and 5m wide, round/oval shape and dense canopy.
- **Leaves:** Elliptic with a pointy end, summer green and fall yellow.
- **Flowers:** White and fragrant, emerging from a pink shell before the leaves.
- **Habitat:** Prefers loam soils that are acidic, well-drained, with medium moisture. Can adapt to a wide range of soils.





COURAGEOUS FLOWERING CRAB

Malus x 'DurLawrence'

The courageous flowering crab is a spectacular sight in the spring when its flowers bloom in mass, providing a fragrant display of pink flowers. The flowers are complemented by the emergence of bronze-red leaves, which become dark green as they mature.

Characteristics:

- **Size & Form:** Mature size of 6m tall and 5m wide with a dense, oval shaped canopy.
- **Leaves:** Emerge bronze-red, maturing to dark green before turning yellow-orange in the fall.
- **Flowers:** Pink with white overtones, fragrant.
- **Fruit:** Rarely produces fruit.
- **Growth Rate:** Grows at a medium rate. May live for 50+ years when grown under ideal conditions.
- **Habitat:** Prefers sites with full sunlight and average to moist soil conditions.

