

Trees and Shrubs for Wet Areas

Plants marked with an * are more tolerant of very wet or periodically flooded conditions. When using this list, remember a number of factors determine the suitability of a plant for a particular location. In addition to adaptability to moisture, also consider light requirements, soil type, hardiness and heat tolerance, and other factors.

TREES: (*Botanical Name* - Common Name)

Tall Deciduous Trees (50 feet or more in height at maturity)

- **Acer rubrum* - Red Maple
- *Catalpa* species - Catalpa
- **Liquidambar styraciflua* - Sweet Gum
- *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* - Dawn Redwood
- **Platanus occidentalis* - Sycamore
- **Quercus bicolor* - Swamp White Oak
- **Quercus nigra* - Water Oak
- *Quercus palustris* - Pin Oak
- **Quercus phellos* - Willow Oak
- **Salix* species - Willows
- **Taxodium ascendens* - Pond Cypress
- **Taxodium distichum* - Bald Cypress

Medium Deciduous Trees (30 to 50 feet in height at maturity)

- *Asimina triloba* - Pawpaw
- **Betula nigra* - River Birch
- **Carpinus caroliniana* - Ironwood
- **Diospyros virginiana* - Persimmon
- *Gleditsia triacanthos* - Honey Locust
- *Magnolia macrophylla* - Bigleaf Magnolia
- **Nyssa aquatica* - Water Tupelo
- **Nyssa sylvatica* - Black Gum
- **Quercus laurifolia* - Laurel Oak

Small Deciduous Trees (under 30 feet in height at maturity)

- *Amelanchier arborea* - Juneberry
- *Chionanthus virginicus* - Fringetree
- *Cornus alternifolia* - Pagoda Dogwood
- *Halesia carolina* - Carolina Silverbell
- *Hamamelis virginiana* - Witch Hazel
- *Magnolia tripetala* - Umbrella Magnolia

Evergreen Trees

- **Chamaecyparis thyoides* - White Cedar
- *Ilex opaca* - American Holly
- *Magnolia grandiflora* - Southern Magnolia
- **Magnolia virginiana* - Sweet Bay
- **Pinus elliotti* - Slash Pine
- **Pinus taeda* - Loblolly Pine

SHRUBS (*Botanical Name* - *Common Name*)

Evergreen Shrubs

- *Agarista populifolia* - Florida Leucothoe
- *Cyrilla racemiflora* - Leatherwood
- *Fatsia japonica* - Japanese Fatsia
- **Ilex glabra* - Inkberry
- *Ilex verticillata* - Winterberry
- *Ilex vomitoria* - Yaupon Holly
- *Leucothoe axillaris* - Coastal Leucothoe
- *Myrica cerifera* - Wax Myrtle
- *Osmanthus americanus* - Devilwood

Deciduous Shrubs

- *Aesculus parviflora* - Bottlebrush Buckeye
- *Aronia arbutifolia* - Red Chokeberry
- *Baccharis halimifolia* - Groundsel Tree
- *Callicarpa americana* - American Beautyberry
- *Calycanthus floridus* - Sweetshrub
- **Cephalanthus occidentalis* - Buttonbush
- *Chimonanthus praecox* - Wintersweet
- **Clethra alnifolia* - Summersweet
- **Cornus sericea* - Redtwig Dogwood
- *Forsythia* species - Forsythia
- *Fothergilla* species - Fothergilla
- **Ilex decidua* - Possumhaw
- **Itea virginica* - Virginia Sweetspire
- **Lindera* species - Spicebush
- *Rhododendron atlanticum* - Coast Azalea
- *Rhododendron viscosum* - Swamp Azalea
- *Rhodotypos scandens* - Jetbead
- *Rosa carolina* - Carolina Rose
- *Rosa palustris* - Swamp Rose

- *Sambucus nigra* ssp. *canadensis* - American Elderberry
- *Spiraea* x *vanhouttei* - Bridal Wreath Spiraea
- *Thuja occidentalis* - American Arborvitae
- *Vaccinium arboreum* - Farkleberry
- *Viburnum opulus* - Cranberry Viburnum
- *Xanthorhiza simplicissima* - Yellowroot

Source: Karen Russ, Clemson University. (New 11/04.)