

**Guide to
Native Trees
for Landscaping
on the Eastern Shore
of Mobile Bay**

INTRODUCTION

The Eastern Shore area of Mobile Bay is home to many tree species that are highly suited for landscaping. Some, such as Live Oaks and Red Maple are widely planted here. Others like Swamp-chestnut Oak and Atlantic White-cedar, are very useful but much less often considered by developers and homeowners. This guide is designed to help people choose native species for various landscape situations.

Why Choose Native Species

Although a number of non-native species do quite well here, natives often are better. Some exotic species that have been planted in this area have looked good for a while but failed. Others, like Tallowtree and Chinese Privet grow too well here and cause serious problems by invading woodlands and farms.

Coastal Alabama (Baldwin, Escambia, and Mobile Counties) has 80 or more native tree species. By using them, landscapers can provide highly educational and interesting plantings.

Key Points to Remember

1. Protect good trees during construction

Prospective building sites often have healthy trees that are worth keeping. Identifying them and preventing damage to roots and stems can be very worthwhile. The Alabama Urban Forestry Association publication "Trees for your Home" gives clear advice on how to do this.

2. Choose New Trees with Care

Thinking about the future sizes and shapes of new trees can avoid a lot of problems with utility lines, street clearance, excessive shade, and your neighbors. Also, one should choose species that are suited to the project's soil drainage, and other conditions. The species selection chart in this brochure will help you do this.

3. Buy Trees grown from Nearby Tree Sources

Many species found here have very large native ranges. For example, Red maple is common from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada. Red Maple specimens from northern seed sources are very unlikely to thrive here. The same is true for most species.

4. Don't buy Damaged Nursery Stock.

Examine trees carefully for signs of insects or disease, physical damage, and drought symptoms. Avoid seedlings and saplings that are "root-bound" from too small containers.

5. Transplanting from the Wild

In many cases, transplanting causes serious damage. Some species are especially difficult in this regard. Transplanted specimens typically do not count toward landscape requirements in city ordinances. Homeowners can transplant some species successfully or may be able to grow them from seed. Transplanting works best when trees are nearly dormant (late fall and early winter).

6. Planting Time

Fall and early winter generally are the best times for planting trees here. Fall planting allows time for

considerable root growth before spring drought or summer heat stress new trees. Container-grown stock can be planted successfully at any time, if this is done carefully and the trees are mulched properly. In any case, new trees will need mulching and regular watering for at least 2 years or more.

7. Plant Carefully

Don't manhandle the specimens, Dig a good hole, and mulch properly. The AUFA publication, "Trees for Your Home" gives detailed advice on the steps.

8. Keep Records

Most people enjoy knowing what tree species they have and how old each specimen is. This information also can be a good selling point for future owners.

9. Plant Availability

Some of the best native species are difficult to find in retail nurseries. Local landscape firms can order most of the trees shown in the brochure. The Baldwin County Master Gardeners' plant sales at Weeks Bay Reserve in Spring and Fall have many native plants. Mobile Botanical Garden also has annual sales.

VERY LARGE TREES (90 feet or more in height or spread) Live Oak, White Oak, Cherrybark Oak, Baldcypress.

LARGE TREES (60 to 80 feet) River Birch, Pignut Hickory, Sugarberry, American Beech, Green Ash, Sweetgum, Southern Magnolia, Blackgum, Swamp Tupelo, Slash Pine, Longleaf Pine, Southern Red Oak, Nuttall Oak, Swamp Chestnut Oak, Willow Oak, Pondcypress

MEDIUM-SIZED TREES (40 to 50 feet) Red Maple, Atlantic White-cedar, Southern Redcedar, Sweetbay Magnolia, Spruce Pine.

Some Native Species likely to cause Big Problems in Landscape use:

Eastern Redbud	Serious diseases
Flowering Dogwood	Serious Diseases
Honeylocust	Large thorns
Loblolly-bay	Difficult to establish
Red Mulberry	Messy fruits
Sycamore	Huge messy leaves, Seedballs
Cottonwood	Diseases
Carolina Cherry Laurel	Produces too many seedlings
Darlington Oak	More susceptible to decay than recommended Oak Species
Laurel Oak	More susceptible to decay than recommended Oak Species
Water Oak	More susceptible to decay than recommended Oak Species
Black/Weeping Willow	Weak branches, highly invasive roots.

Good Substitutes for Flowering Dogwood

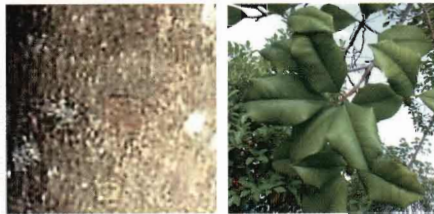
Downy Serviceberry, Parsely Hawthorn, Two-wing Silverbell, Sourwood, Flatwoods Plum



American Beech / *Fagus grandifolia*
50-70' tall - Slow growth
full sun to heavy shade



American Holly / *Ilex opaca*
20-40' tall - Slow growth
full sun to part shade



American Hornbeam / *Carpinus*
20-35' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to shade



Atlantic Whitecedar / *Chamaecyparis thyoides*
40-50' tall - Fast juvenile-slows later
full sun to part shade



Baldcypress / *Taxodium distichum*
70-90' tall - Medium growth
full sun



Bigleaf Magnolia / *Magnolia macrophylla*
20-40' tall - Medium - fast growth
full sun to part shade



AMERICAN BEECH



AMERICAN HOLLY



AMERICAN HORNBEAM



ATLANTIC
WHITECEDAR



BALDCYPRESS



BIG LEAF
MAGNOLIA



Blackgum / *Nyssa sylvatica*
60-80' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to part shade



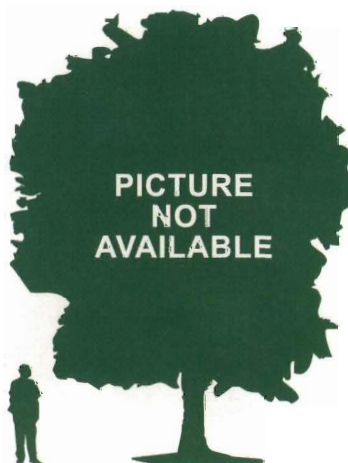
Cherrybark Oak / *Quercus pagoda*
70-100' tall - Med - fast growth
full sun to part shade



Dahoon Holly / *Ilex cassine*
15-25' tall - Medium growth
full sun to part shade



Downy Serviceberry / *Amelanchier arborea*
15-30' tall - Medium growth
full sun to part shade



Eastern Hophornbean / *Ostrya virginiana*
25-40' tall - Slow growth
full sun to shade



Flatwoods Plum / *Prunus umbellata*
10-20' tall - Slow growth
full sun to light shade



BLACKGUM



CHERRYBARK OAK



DAHOON HOLLY



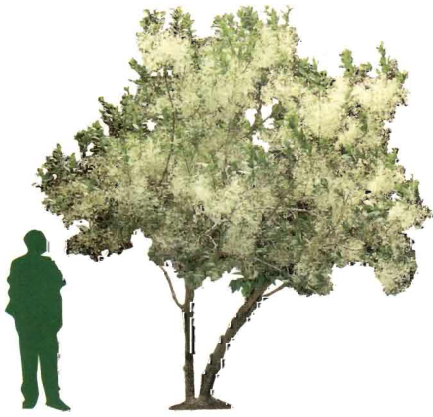
DOWNY SERVICEBERRY



EASTERN HOPHORNBEAN



FLATWOODS PLUM



Fringetree / *Chionanthus virginicus*
12-20' tall - Slow growth
full sun to part shade



Green Ash / *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
50-60' tall - Fast growth
full sun to part shade



Live Oak / *Quercus virginiana*
40-80' tall - Slow growth
full sun to part shade



Longleaf Pine / *Pinus palustris*
60-80' tall - Medium growth
full sun



Nuttall Oak / *Quercus nuttallii*
50-80' tall - Med - fast growth
full sun to part shade



Parsley Hawthorn / *Crataegus marshallii*
15-25' tall - Slow growth
full sun





Persimmon / *Diospyros virginiana*
30-60' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to part shade



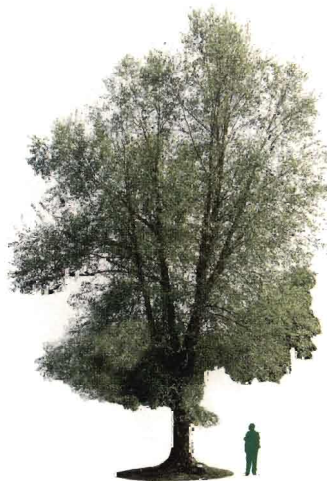
Pignut Hickory / *Carya glabra*
60-80' tall - Slow growth
full sun to part shade



Pondcypress / *Taxodium ascendens*
40-80' tall - Medium growth
full sun



Red Maple / *Acer rubrum*
40-60' tall - Med - fast growth
full sun to part shade



River Birch / *Betula nigra*
60-80' tall - Fast growth
full sun to part shade



Sand Live Oak / *Quercus geminata*
20-30' tall - Medium growth
full sun to part shade



PERSIMMON



PIGNOT HICKORY



PONDCEYPRESS



RED MAPLE



RIVER BIRCH



SAND LIVE OAK



Slash Pine / *Pinus elliottii*
60-80' tall - Fast growth
full sun



Sourwood / *Oxydendrum arboreum*
30-50' tall - Slow growth
full sun to light shade



Southern Magnolia / *Magnolia grandiflora*
60-80' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to part shade



Southern Redcedar / *Juniperus silicicola/virginiana*
40-60' tall - Fast juvenile-slows later
full sun to light shade



Southern Red Oak / *Quercus falcata*
60-80' tall - Medium growth
full sun to part shade



Sparkleberry / *Vaccinium arboreum*
15-20' tall - Slow growth
full sun to light shade



SLASH PINE



SOURWOOD



**SOUTHERN
MAGNOLIA**



**SOUTHERN
RED CEDAR**



**SOUTHERN
RED OAK**



SPARKELBERRY

Common Name / Scientific name	Average Height	Average Crown	Growth Rate	Light Requirement	Soil Requirement
American Beech / <i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	50 - 70	40 - 60	Slow	Full sun to heavy shade	Moist to well - drained
American Holly / <i>Ilex opaca</i>	20 - 40	15 - 30	Slow	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
American Hornbeam / <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	20 - 35	20 - 35	Slow to med	Full sun to shade	Moist to well - drained
Atlantic Whitecedar / <i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	40 - 50	10 - 20	Fast juvenile, slows later.	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
Baldcypress / <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	70 - 90	20 - 30	Medium	Full sun	Moist to well - drained.
Bigleaf Magnolia / <i>Magnolia macrophylla</i>	20 - 40	15 - 25	Moderate to fast	Full sun to part shade	Moist well - drained
Blackgum / <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	60 - 80	30 - 40	Slow to med	Full sun to part shade	Well - drained
Cherrybark Oak / <i>Quercus pagoda</i>	70 - 100	60 - 80	Medium to fast	Full sun to part shade	Moist fertile soil
Dahoon Holly / <i>Ilex cassine</i>	15 - 25	8 - 15	Medium	full sun to part shade	Wet to well - drained
Downy Serviceberry / <i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	15 - 30	15 - 20	Medium	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
Eastern Hophornbean / <i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	25 - 40	15 - 25	Slow	Full sun to shade	Moist well - drained
Flatwoods Plum / <i>Prunus umbellata</i>	10 - 20	10 - 15	Slow	Full sun to light shade	Well - drained to dry
Fringetree / <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	12 - 20	12 - 20	Slow	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
Green Ash / <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	50 - 60	30 - 40	Fast	Full sun to part shade	Moist, well - drained
Live Oak / <i>Quercus virginiana</i>	40 - 80	60 - 120	Medium	Full sun to part shade.	Moist to dry
Longleaf Pine / <i>Pinus palustris</i>	60 - 80	30 - 40	Moderate	Full sun	Moist to dry
Nuttall Oak / <i>Quercus nuttallii</i>	50 - 80	40 - 60	Medium to fast	Full sun to part shade	Wet to moderately dry
Parsley Hawthorn / <i>Crataegus marshallii</i>	15 - 25	15 - 25	Slow	Full sun	Well - drained
Persimmon / <i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	30 - 60	20 - 35	Slow to med	Full sun to part shade	Well - drained
Pignut Hickory / <i>Carya glabra</i>	60 - 80	40 - 50	slow	Full sun to part shade	Moist, to moderately dry
Pondcypress / <i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	40 - 80	15 - 25	Medium	Full sun	Moist to well - drained
Red Maple / <i>Acer rubrum</i>	40 - 60	20 - 30	medium to fast	Full sun to part shade	moist,well - drained
River Birch / <i>Betula nigra</i>	60 - 80	40 - 50	Fast	Full sun to part shade	Moist, well - drained
Sand Live Oak / <i>Quercus geminata</i>	20 - 30	20 - 40	medium	Full sun to part shade	well - drained - dry
Slash Pine / <i>Pinus elliotii</i>	60 - 80	20 - 40	Fast	Full sun	Moist to med. Dry
Sourwood / <i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	30 - 50	15 - 25	Slow	Full sun to light shade	Moist well - drained
Southern Magnolia / <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	60 - 80	40 - 60	Slow to med	Full sun to part shade	Moist to dry
Southern Red-cedar / <i>Juniperus silicicola/virginiana</i>	40 - 60	10 - 30	Fast juvenile, slows later	Full sun to light shade	Moist to well - drained
Southern Red Oak / <i>Quercus falcata</i>	60 - 80	50 - 60	Medium	Full sun to part shade	Well - drained to dry
Sparkleberry / <i>Vaccinium arboreum</i>	15 - 20	15 - 20	Slow	Full sun to light shade	Well drained to dry
Spruce Pine / <i>Pinus glabra</i>	40 - 60	30 - 40	Fast	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
Sugarberry / <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	60 - 80	60 - 80	Moderate	Full sun to part shade	Wet to well - drained
Swamp - chestnut Oak / <i>Quercus michauxii</i>	50 - 80	40 - 60	Medium to fast	Full sun to part shade	Moist well - drained
Swamp Redbay / <i>Persea palustris</i>	20 - 40	15 - 25	Medium	Full sun to part shade	Wet to well - drained
Swamp Tupelo / <i>Nyssa sylvatica var: biflora</i>	60 - 80	30 - 40	Slow to med	full sun to part shade	wet - moist
Sweetbay Magnolia / <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	50 - 60	20 - 40	Medium	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
Sweetgum / <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	60 - 80	30 - 50	Fast	Full sun to part shade	Wet to moderately dry
Two - wing Silverbell / <i>Halesia diptera</i>	20 - 30	20 - 30	Medium	Full sun to part shade	Moist to well - drained
White Oak / <i>Quercus alba</i>	70 - 90	50 - 60	Slow to med	Full sun to part shade	Deep, rich well - drained soils
Willow Oak / <i>Quercus phellos</i>	40 - 70	30 - 40	Medium	Full sun	Moist, well - drained, but adaptable

Disadvantages

Shallow roots inhibit grass.
Mature trees need lots of space.

Many insects and diseases.

Minor insect and disease problems. May suffer serious stem rot if injured.

Few

Surface roots "Knees" form in poorly - drained sites. Webworms.

Highly susceptible to wind damage.

Few

Not good for dry infertile sites.

Spittlebugs

Leaf diseases and insects

None serious

Few

No serious problems

Borers and scale insects. Shallow roots when grown in compacted soils.

Massive size overwhelms small yards. Stymies grass

Turpentine Beetles and Ips Beetles.

Few

Long sharp thorns. Rust. Scale insects. Mealybugs.

Webworms. Green fruit is highly astringent. Fallen ripe fruit is a litter problem.

Large nuts

Webworms

Aphids, bad seed sources

Aphids, wind breakage, extensive root system

Few

Fusiform rust cankers, Turpentine beetles and Ips beetles

None serious

Large waxy leaves slow to decompose. Dense shade inhibits grass. Does not tolerate root disturbance.

Baqworms. Storm damage

Prolonged leaf fall

Very slow growth

Sawfly

few

Few

Leaf galls

Few

Few pests. Often produces many suckers at base.

Leaves and gumballs difficult to rake and to clean from bushes. Above - ground roots. Webworms.

None serious

Few

Expansive root system. Lace Bug magnet

Advantages

Beautiful deep crown. Long - lived. Nuts preferred by wildlife.

Green evergreen leaves & bright red berries. Choose female plants of good cultivars for berry production & pest-resistance

Attractive blue - gray bark and interesting fluted or twisted trunks. Survives heavy shade. Good for naturalistic plantings.

Beautiful specimen tree. Elegant fine - textured evergreen foliage. Nice fine - textured bark.

Stately well - formed tree. Beautiful feathery deciduous green foliage turns bronze red in fall. Very strong.

Huge leaves and enormous white flowers make this a fine specimen tree.

Highly adaptable, even on tough sites. Excellent red fall foliage. Interesting blocky bark. Very strong.

Excellent shade tree with large rounded crown. Long - lived.

Shiny evergreen leaves and red to yellow berries. Attractive smooth light - gray bark.

Showy white flowers before leaves are out. Good for naturalistic plantings. Adaptable to wide range of sites.

Highly shade - tolerant. Interesting reddish brown bark. Small nuts attract birds. Very strong. Requires little maintenance.

Blooms profusely in early spring with white flowers.

Beautiful early white clusters of blossoms last longer than most. Especially profuse blossoms in full sun.

Highly adaptable. Not as desirable for land scaping as White Ash, but more available from nurseries. Abundant seeds are messy, but preferred by wildlife.

Quintessential Eastern Shore evergreen tree. Widest - spreading. Long - lived, very strong, and drought - tolerant. Easy to grow.

Huge, heavy cones. Slow initial growth. Elegant long evergreen needles. Beautiful trunk. Excellent shade for Azaleas, Camellias, lawns etc. Most long - lived and pest resistant pine for this area.

Excellent shade tree. Good street tree. Large, full crown. Reddish fall colors. More adaptable to diverse sites than Shumard Oak and doesn't stop growing in hot summer.

Showy clusters of white or pinkish flowers in late spring. Red winter fruit. Attractive finely cleft leaves. Good substitute for Flowering Dogwood.

Survives on relatively poor sites. Larger specimens have interesting blocky bark. Ripe fruit is sweet and liked by wildlife.

Gorgeous yellow fall color. Very strong.

Beautiful deep, narrow crown. Spectacular stem - branch architecture. Lovely cinnamon brown bark. Very effective in small clusters. Strong

Beautiful showy red flowers and seeds in spring. Good fall color. Much stronger branching than Silver Maple. Easy to grow. Florida Maple and Chalk Maple are much longer lived and more windfirm.

Beautiful peeling & curly bark. Does well in clumps or as a multi - stemmed specimens.

Similar to Live Oak but smaller and very drought tolerant

Provides quick shade and good cover for landscape shrubs. Attractive glossy evergreen foliage and interesting bark. Needles make excellent mulch. Easy to grow.

Showy clusters of small white flowers at tips of branches. Beautiful red leaves in fall. Attractive fissured bark. Good alternative to Flowering Dogwood.

Beautiful showy flowers and glossy evergreen leaves. Outstanding specimen tree. Many cultivars available, including dwarf forms such as "Little Gem".

Fine - texture evergreen foliage and bushy shape are very useful for screening and windbreaks.

Highly adaptable to good or poor sites. Long - lived. Beautiful deep, rounded crown.

Highly drought - tolerant. Evergreen. Interesting twisted stems and branches with reddish bark. Typically multi-stemmed. Late - maturing berries valuable for wildlife. Already present on many undisturbed sites.

Interesting form (similar to white pine). Stylish evergreen foliage. Pretty bark. Good specimen tree.

Highly adaptable. Interesting bark. Good street tree. Foliage desired by butterfly larvae.

Beautiful round - headed shade tree. Huge, beautiful acorns. Particularly suitable for this area. Easy to grow. Long - lived. Very strong.

Attractive evergreen foliage. Small fruits attract birds. Leaves have spicy smell.

same as blackgum but adapted to wet sites.

Pretty flowers are smaller than on Grandiflora, but very abundant in full sun. Evergreen leaves are shiny green on top and silvery beneath.

Beautiful shape. Very hardy. Excellent fall color. Pretty bark. Adapts to tough sites. Easy to grow.

Showy white bell - shaped flowers in early spring. Good alternative to Flowering Dogwood.

Stately long - lived shade tree. Large acorns much liked by wildlife. Very strong.

Excellent street tree. Fine - textured deep crown. Long - lived.



Spruce Pine / *Pinus glabra*
40-60' tall - Fast growth
full sun to part shade



Sugarberry / *Celtis laevigata*
60-80' tall - Medium growth
full sun to part shade



Swamp - Chestnut Oak / *Quercus michauxii*
50-80' tall - Fast growth
full sun to part shade



Swamp Redbay / *Persea palustris*
20-40' tall - Medium growth
full sun to part shade



Swamp Tupelo / *Nyssa sylvatica* var: *Biflora*
60-80' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to part shade



Sweetbay Magnolia / *Magnolia virginiana*
50-60' tall - Medium growth



SPRUCE PINE



SUGARBERRY



SWAMP CHESTNUT OAK



SWAMP REDBAY



SWAMP TUPELO



SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA



Two - wing Silverbell / *Halesia diptera*
20-30' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to part shade



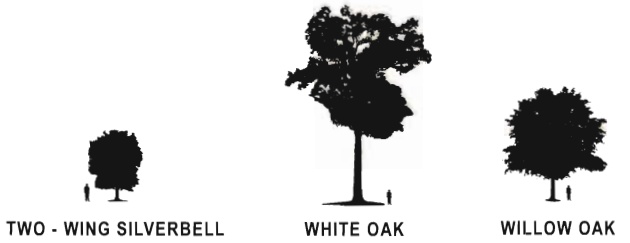
White Oak / *Quercus alba*
70-90' tall - Slow - med growth
full sun to part shade



Willow Oak / *Quercus*
40-70' tall - Medium growth
full sun



NOTE: The tree images in this guide are in comparison with a 6-foot-tall person. The size of the person's image is reduced or increased in proportion to the approximate sizes of mature tree specimens.



USEFUL REFERENCES

FREE PUBLICATIONS

Native Trees for North Florida. 29 pages. University of Florida Department of Environmental Horticulture, Cooperative Extension Service, Circular 833. Alan W. Meerow and Jeffrey G. Norcini authors. Available online at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP007>

Selecting Large Trees for the Landscape. 4 pages. Alabama Cooperative Extension System Circular ANR-447, Ronald Shumack and David Williams authors.

Street Trees: Site Selection, Planting and Maintenance in the Urban Landscape. 8 pages. Alabama Cooperative Extension System Circular ANR-814.

Trees for Alabama Homes, published by the Alabama Power Company. 17 pages. Good color photographs, illustrations and charts for selecting, planting and maintaining trees.

Trees for your Home: A REFERENCE GUIDE TO GROWING HEALTHY TREES, published by the Alabama Urban Forestry Association. 17 pages. Good illustrations and advice on protecting existing trees during building construction and on selecting, planting, and maintaining new trees. Copies available at some local city offices and from the Alabama Urban Forestry Association, P.O. Box 549210, Birmingham, AL 35254, call toll-free 877.548.0440 or info@aufa.com .2nd draft

BOOKS

Lois Trig Chaplin, **The Southern Gardener's Book of Lists: The Best Plants for All Your Needs, Wants, and Whims.** 186 pages. Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, TX. Includes lists of trees and other plants, categorized for different situations.

Michael A. Dirr (University of Georgia Dept. of Horticulture), **Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Propagation and Uses, 5th Edition (1998).** 1225 pages. Stipes Publishing Company, Champaign, IL. Line drawings and detailed information on many species, varieties, and cultivars.

Michael A. Dirr, **Dirr's Trees and Shrubs for Warm Climates: an Illustrated Encyclopedia.** 446 pages. Timber Press, Portland, Oregon. Descriptions and color photographs of many native and non-native species.

Harrison L. Flint (Purdue University), **Landscape Plants for Eastern North America.** 842 pages. Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York. Although the subtitle indicates that the book is "Exclusive of Florida and the Immediate Gulf Coast", most tree species native to Mobile and Baldwin County are included. Good descriptions and site adaptability charts as well as highly useful drawings illustrating typical sizes and shapes of young and mature specimens.

Leonard E. Foote & Samuel B. Jones, Jr., **Native Shrubs and Woody Vines of the Southeast: Landscaping Uses and Identifications.** 199 pages and 56 color plates. Timber Press, Corvallis, Oregon. Includes a number of shrub species that reach small tree sizes.

Elbert J. Little, **National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees: Eastern Region.** 716 pages. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. Designed for tree identification, this book contains species descriptions and very good color photographs of leaves, flowers, fruit, and bark .

Jeff Meyer (American Forests Famous and Historic Tree Project), **The Tree Book: A practical Guide to Selecting and Maintaining the Best Trees for Your Yard and Garden.** 415 pages. Scribner, New York.

David J. Rogers and Constance Rogers, **Woody Ornamentals for Deep South Gardens**. 315 pages. University of West Florida Press, Pensacola. Includes line drawings, some black and white photographs, and brief descriptions of many native and non-native species. Useful species selection charts.

Ann H. Whitman, Editor, **National Audubon Society Pocket Guide, Familiar Trees of North America: East**. 191 pages. Provides beautiful color photographs of leaves, thumbnail-sized color photographs of bark, and small silhouettes of trees.

WEBSITES

Alabama Cooperative Extension System www.aces.edu/

Alabama Urban Forestry Association www.aufa.com/

Association of Florida Native Nurseries www.afnn.org/

Auburn University: Donald E. Davis Arboretum photographs and tree descriptions
www.auburn.edu/arboretum/

North Carolina State University Department of Horticulture Plant Factsheets
www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/factsheets/

University of Florida, Cooperative Extension System, Online Publications
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publications.html>

Virginia Tech University Dendrology - Fact Sheets for Tree Identification www.cnr.vt.edu/dendro/

NOTE: USING THE GOOGLE.COM IMAGES BUTTON, ONE CAN ENTER EITHER THE COMMON NAME OR THE SCIENTIFIC NAME AND FIND HUNDREDS OF WEBSITES WITH PHOTOGRAPHS AND WRITTEN DESCRIPTIONS OF ALMOST ANY PLANT SPECIES.

LOCAL TREE TRAILS AND ARBORETA

Fairhope Beach Park Tree Trail, just north of the Fairhope Municipal Pier. Includes 47 signed specimens representing 26 native species and 2 non-native ones. Free brochure available at the park entrance and at city offices.

Fairhope Marietta Johnson Tree Trail, Faulkner State Community College Campus, 450 Fairhope Avenue. Includes 60 signed specimens representing 36 native tree species and some non-native ones and several shrub species. Free brochure available at city offices, Faulkner State administrative building, and Marietta Johnson Museum.

Mobile Botanical Gardens, 5150 Museum Drive. This 100-acre site includes many specimens of native trees and other plants.

Village Point Park Reserve, 27717 Main Street, Daphne. 65 wooded acres with many large native trees and shrubs that are often seen in South Alabama landscapes. Includes a tree trail with 32 identified trees and shrubs and a brochure (available at City Hall or the Recreation Department).

Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, 11300 U.S. Highway 98, headquarters located about 0.2 mile west of Weeks Bay/Fish River bridge. Includes a boardwalk through a wetland, with specimens of trees and other plants identified by signs and listed on a free brochure.

NOTE: HURRICAN IVAN DAMAGED SOME OF THESE LOCATIONS SEVERELY. IN OCTOBER 2004, WHEN THIS GUIDE WAS PUBLISHED, SOME SPECIMENS WERE MISSING.

TREE SIZES AND SHAPES

Many things govern tree sizes and shapes. The images and size ranges shown on the preceding pages are approximations for mature specimens. Actual sizes will vary greatly, depending on seed sources, soil conditions, rainfall patterns, and the amounts of sunlight each tree gets. Specimens that must compete with other trees for sunlight, nutrients and water usually will be smaller in stem circumference and crown spread than ones without competition.

ALABAMA STATE CHAMPION TREES

(These are the largest specimens reported by the Alabama Forestry Commission to exist as of June 2004. Most are much larger than would be found in ordinary landscapes.)

Common Name	Circumference (inches)	Height (feet)	Crown Spread (feet)
American Beech	140	153	83
American Holly	125	76	48
American Hornbeam	50	86	42
Atlantic Whitecedar	186	88	42
Baldcypress	324	131	48
Bigleaf Magnolia	61	78	52
Blackgum	128	112	47
Cherrybark Oak	244	123	140
Downy Serviceberry	31	30	19
Eastern Hophornbeam	40	50	38
Flatwoods Plum	26	24	70
Fringetree	16	31	16
Green Ash	167	78	72
Live Oak	384	64	112
Longleaf Pine	122	113	55
Nuttall Oak	148	90	44
Parsley Hawthorn	8	15	6
Persimmon	78	118	44
Pignut Hickory	150	144	99
Red Maple	137	80	79
River Birch	158	111	96
Sand Live Oak	182	70	104
Slash Pine	95	136	52
Sourwood	70	73	41
Southern Magnolia	200	90	80
Southern Red-cedar	167	57	48
Southern Red Oak	287	107	133
Sparkleberry	52	29	45
Spruce Pine	142	119	80
Sugarberry	212	81	21
Swamp Chestnut Oak	197	164	148
Swamp Tupelo	112	92	58
Sweetbay Magnolia	134	84	59
Sweetgum	212	92	100
Two-wing Silverbell	38	76	36
White Oak	177	99	113
Willow Oak	265	10	114

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Fairhope Tree Committee prepared this Guide with invaluable assistance from Dr. Harry Larsen (retired forestry professor, Auburn University) and Mr. Fred Nation (botanist and member of the Village Point Foundation, Daphne, AL). Raimund Redlich (Liz and Rai Design) managed photography and creative design through a contract with the City of Fairhope Public Works Department.

FAIRHOPE TREE COMMITTEE

ex officio:

Mayor Timothy M. Kant

Jennifer Fidler, City Horticulturist and Public Works Director

Appointed

Tom Ellis, Forester

Paul Fontenot, Landscape Architect

Mike Ford, City Councilman

Jackie Frodsham

Bob Gentle, City Councilman

Bobby Green, Nurseryman and Landscaper



The project was funded in part by the USDA Forest Service and Auburn University in partnership with the Alabama Forestry Commission, Auburn University School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences, and the Alabama Urban Forestry Association.