



SOUTHERN LIVE OAK

Quercus virginiana

At a Glance

- **Tree Type:** Evergreen
- **Size at Maturity:** 40–80' tall × 60–100' wide
- **Canopy Style:** Massive, spreading, picturesque
- **Sun Requirements:** Full sun
- **Water Needs:** Medium; drought- and salt-tolerant
- **Growth Rate:** Moderate
- **Wildlife Attractant:** Yes—birds, mammals, insects
- **Native to NC:** Yes
- **Ideal Use:** Legacy, shade, habitat, large yards

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

The quintessential southern tree, live oaks are living landmarks. Their sweeping, moss-draped branches create shade havens and iconic beauty.

FUN FACT

The Southern live oak is unmatched in stormwater and carbon benefits.

One mature tree can intercept and absorb tens of thousands of gallons of stormwater each year, reducing flooding and protecting our waterways.

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

A single Southern live oak can be home to thousands of organisms—from lichens, mosses, and fungi clinging to its bark to insects, birds, bats, and mammals making use of its branches, leaves, and cavities.

It's not just a tree; it's an entire ecosystem.

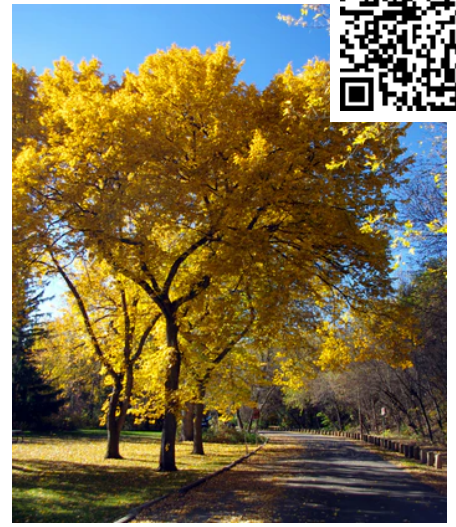
TREE CARE TIPS

- **Water routinely (1-2x/week) and deeply** during the first one to two years to encourage strong root growth.
- **Maintain a 2-3" layer of mulch** to stabilize soil temperature, conserve moisture, and reduce weeds. *Leave the trunk's root flare visible to avoid rot.*
- Avoid soil compaction or construction near roots.
- **Prune during winter dormancy** to remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches and maintain strong structure. *Avoid warm-season pruning, and never top.*

WHERE TO PLANT

These giants grow slowly but live for centuries. Plant at least 20–30 feet from structures, driveways, and power lines so your oak has room to spread its iconic canopy.

Pair your live oak with native understory plants like yaupon holly, beautyberry, or wax myrtle. These species thrive in the filtered light beneath canopy trees like oaks!



'PRINCETON' AMERICAN ELM

Ulmus americana 'Princeton'

At a Glance

- **Tree Type:** Deciduous
- **Size at Maturity:** 60–80' tall × 30–50' wide
- **Canopy Style:** Vase-shaped, arching
- **Sun Requirements:** Full sun
- **Water Needs:** Medium
- **Growth Rate:** Fast
- **Wildlife Attractant:** Yes—birds, pollinators, mammals
- **Native to NC:** Yes—disease-resistant cultivar of native elm
- **Ideal Use:** Fast shade, urban areas

TREE CARE TIPS

- **Water routinely (1-2x/week) and deeply** during the first 1-2 years to encourage root growth.
- **Maintain a 2-3" layer of mulch** to stabilize soil temperature, conserve moisture, and reduce weeds. *Leave the trunk's root flare visible!*
- Avoid soil compaction or construction near roots.
- **Prune during winter dormancy** to remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches and maintain structure. *Avoid warm-season pruning. Never top!*

FUN FACT

Once America's most popular street tree, the elm lined entire avenues with its graceful canopy.

WHERE TO PLANT

Ideal for large yards, this elm needs ample space to reach its full potential—maturing at 60–80' tall with an equally impressive canopy spread.

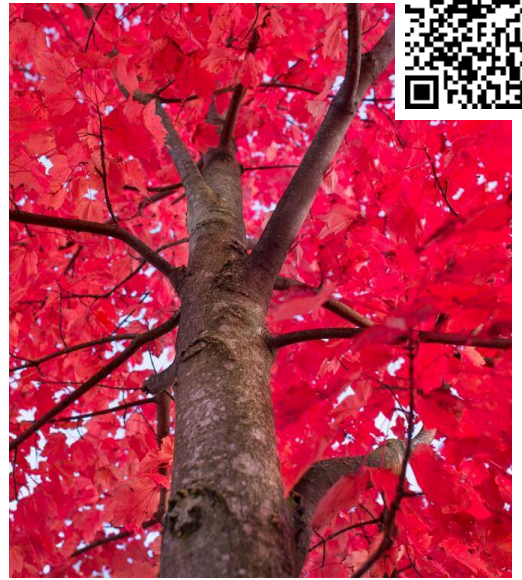
WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

Developed in 1922, the 'Princeton' cultivar is prized for its resistance to Dutch elm disease, helping to restore this iconic tree to our landscapes. Fast-growing and adaptable, it tolerates a wide range of urban conditions, from compacted soils to air pollution, while still displaying its iconic form.

Its tall, arching limbs makes every street look like a cathedral and every yard feel like a park.

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

Hosts the caterpillars, supporting butterfly and insect populations at the base of the food web. Its seeds and foliage feed countless birds and small mammals.



‘OCTOBER GLORY’ RED MAPLE

*Acer
rubrum*

At a Glance

- **Tree Type:** Deciduous
- **Size at Maturity:** 40–50’ tall × 25–35’ wide
- **Canopy Style:** Broadly oval
- **Sun Requirements:** Full sun
- **Water Needs:** Medium; adaptable
- **Growth Rate:** Fast
- **Wildlife Attractant:** Yes—pollinators, birds
- **Native to NC:** Yes—cultivar of native red maple
- **Ideal Use:** Shade, ornamental, lawns

TREE CARE TIPS

- **Water routinely (1-2x/week) and deeply** during the first 1-2 years to encourage root growth.
- **Maintain a 2-3" layer of mulch** to stabilize soil temperature, conserve moisture, and reduce weeds. *Leave the trunk’s root flare visible to avoid rot!*
- Avoid soil compaction or construction near roots.
- **Prune during winter dormancy** to remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches and maintain structure. Avoid warm-season pruning. *Never top!*

FUN FACT

True to its name, October Glory’s fall color is considered one of the best among maples in the South!

WHY YOU’LL LOVE IT

Famous for its spectacular crimson foliage that lingers into late fall—when most trees are bare, October Glory is just hitting its stride.

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

Red maples are pollinator powerhouses, great for urban ecosystems. Their very early blooms provide nectar before most trees flower. Unlike the ‘Brandywine’ variety of maple, ‘October Glory’ typically sets showy red samaras, adding spring food for birds and small mammals.

WHERE TO PLANT

This tree needs room to shine and space for the roots and canopy to spread! *Avoid cramped areas near sidewalks, driveways, or overhead wires.*

Plant in open, sunny spots with good air circulation.



‘BRANDYWINE’ RED MAPLE

Acer rubrum

At a Glance

- **Tree Type:** Deciduous
- **Size at Maturity:** 25–35’ tall × 15–25’ wide
- **Canopy Style:** Upright, oval
- **Sun Requirements:** Full sun to part shade
- **Water Needs:** Medium; adaptable
- **Growth Rate:** Moderate
- **Wildlife Attractant:** Yes—birds, pollinators
- **Native to NC:** Yes—cultivar of native maple
- **Ideal Use:** Shade, compact sites, fall color

TREE CARE TIPS

- **Water routinely (1-2x/week) and deeply** during the first 1-2 years to encourage root growth.
- **Maintain a 2-3" layer of mulch** to stabilize soil temperature, conserve moisture, and reduce weeds. *Leave the trunk’s root flare visible!*
- Avoid soil compaction or construction near roots.
- **Prune during winter dormancy** to remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches and maintain structure. *Avoid warm-season pruning. Never top!*

WHY YOU’LL LOVE IT

This red maple cultivar was bred for knockout fall color—deep purple-red that lasts longer than most.

Plus, it’s seedless, so you won’t be raking up samaras (“helicopters”)!

WHERE TO PLANT

Plant your Brandywine Red Maple in full sun with well-drained soil—front or back yards, wide roadside strips, or open lawn areas are ideal.

Avoid power lines and hardscapes; give it space to grow up to 50’ tall with a broad, oval canopy.

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

Red maples are pollinator powerhouses, great for urban ecosystems. Their early blooms provide nectar before most trees flower. The ‘Brandywine’ variety is largely seedless, so it provides less fruit for wildlife than seed-bearing maples, but it still supports biodiversity and provides year-round habitat.

FUN FACT

In 1994, the Brandywine was developed by the U.S. National Arboretum for brilliant, reliable fall color and strong landscape performance.



'BRACKEN'S BROWN BEAUTY' MAGNOLIA

Magnolia grandiflora

At a Glance

- **Tree Type:** Evergreen
- **Size at Maturity:** 30–50' tall × 15–25' wide
- **Canopy Style:** Pyramidal, dense
- **Sun Requirements:** Full sun to part shade
- **Water Needs:** Medium; prefers moist, well-drained soils
- **Growth Rate:** Moderate
- **Wildlife Attractant:** Yes—birds, pollinators
- **Native to NC:** Yes
- **Ideal Use:** Evergreen screening, accent tree, year-round interest

WHERE TO PLANT

Perfect for smaller yards or urban lots where a full-size magnolia would be too large. Great for use as an evergreen screen! Protect from prolonged soggy soil; once established, it tolerates heat and brief dry spells.

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

Showy summer blooms supply nectar and pollen for native pollinators. Produces red seeds relished by songbirds and small mammals. The dense, evergreen canopy offers year-round cover and nesting sites.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

A cultivar of the Southern magnolia, Bracken's Brown Beauty keeps its form tidy in a neat, pyramidal shape.

You'll positively swoon over the leaves with their glossy green tops and velvety brown undersides, and oh, those creamy, fragrant summer blooms!

FUN FACT

Magnolias are ancient—fossils date back 95 million years, before bees existed. They were (and still are!) pollinated by beetles!

TREE CARE TIPS

- **Water routinely (1-2x/week) and deeply** during the first 1–2 years to encourage root growth.
- **Maintain a 2-3" layer of mulch** to stabilize soil temperature, conserve moisture, and reduce weeds. Leave the trunk's root flare visible!
- **Avoid soil compaction** or construction near roots.
- **Prune only lightly in late winter if needed**—magnolias dislike heavy cuts.