

TREE SPECIES:

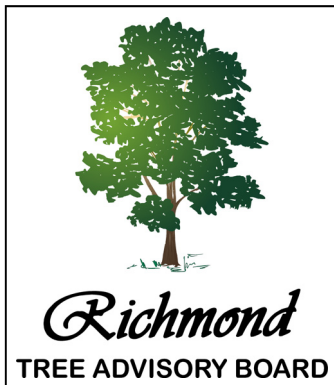
Acer campestre, Hedge Maple
A. ginnala, Amur Maple
Betula populifolia, Gray Birch
Carya glabra, Pignut Hickory
Celtis occidentalis, Hackberry
Crataegus phaenopyrum, Washington Hawthorn
Gleditsia triacanthos v. *inermis*, Thornless
Honey Locust
Gymnocladus dioicus, Kentucky Coffee Tree
Juniperus spp., Juniper
Maclura pomifera, Osage Orange
Pinus banksiana, Jack Pine
Prunus besseyi, Plum
Quercus macrocarpa, Bur Oak
Q. prinus, Chestnut Oak
Robinia pseudoacacia, Locust

ANNUALS:

Cosmos bipinnatus, Cosmos
Gaillardia pulchella, Blanket Flower
Gazania rigens, Treasure Flower
Gomphrena globosa, Globe Amaranth
Helichrysum bracteatum, Strawflower
Helipterum roseum, Strawflower
Ipomoea spp., Morning-Glory
Portulaca grandiflora, Rock-Rose
Tagetes spp. and vars., Marigold
Tropaeolum majus, Nasturtium
Zinnia spp. and vars., Zinnia

SHRUB SPECIES:

Acanthopanax sieboldiana, Five-Leaved Aralia
Amorpha canescens, Lead Plant
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi, Bearberry
Berberis thunbergii, Japanese Barberry
Buddleia alternifolia, Butterfly Bush
Caragana arborescens, Pea shrub
Caryopteris x clandonensis, Hybrid Bluebeard
Chaenomeles spp., Flowering Quince
Cotoneaster spp., Cotoneaster
Genista spp., Woadwaxen
Ligustrum spp., Privet
Myrica pensylvanica, Bayberry
Perovskia spp., Russian Sage
Physocarpus opulifolius, Nine-Bark
Potentilla spp., Cinquefoil
Rhus spp., Sumac
Rosa rugosa, Hedge Rose
Tamarix spp., Tamarix
Vaccinium pallidum, Dry-Land Blueberry
Viburnum lentago, Nannyberry



If you want more information or have comments or suggestions for the Richmond Tree Advisory Board, please contact Richmond City Hall at (859)623-1000, ext. 2004 or visit the Richmond Tree Advisory Board link at www.richmond.ky.us.

Selecting Drought Tolerant Plants For Your Landscape



(The bloom of the Kentucky Coffee Tree.)

Richmond Tree Advisory Board

“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Why drought resistant plants?

It is important to incorporate drought resistant plant species in your landscape. These plants will help reduce water consumption and add some diversity to your design.

Typically, when we think of plants for dry sites, we think of cacti and succulents. These are not hardy here in Kentucky. There is a wide variety of plants that will do quite well in our Kentucky gardens.

When designing and planting your landscape it is always good to get sound, expert advice. Go to a reputable nursery to purchase your plants and get new ideas for combining plants.

How to get your plants established:

Remember that no plant is drought tolerant until it is established in your landscape. Establishment may take a few months or many years depending on the plant type. Large ball and burlap trees may take over 1 year to establish for every inch of caliper (trunk diameter at 6" above root ball). For example, a 2½" caliper tree will take about 3 years to establish in the site. An herbaceous perennial, however, may take only 6 months to a year.

During this establishment period, correct watering is crucial to a healthy plant and a thriving landscape. In most cases, water woody plants once per week during dry periods. Use methods that deliver water slowly and deeply which minimizes evaporation and runoff, for example a soaker hose. Use a rain barrel throughout the year to collect water for these dry periods.

Use mulches properly, a 2-3" saucer around trees and shrubs and 1-2" around perennials and annuals. This keeps soil moist and reduces weeds.

Finally, make sure that you group plants together based on their ultimate water requirements. Do not combine species such as juniper with azalea. Junipers prefer full sun and are drought tolerant species, while azaleas prefer moist, well-drained soil in lightly shaded areas.

Assess your landscape and learn the various microclimates, the climate in a small area. It may have unique qualities, such as low wind, full shade and moist soils. Choose plants that will thrive in each microclimate in your landscape.

What plants are best for Richmond and Madison County?

The following is a list of some drought tolerant species that will do well in our Kentucky landscapes. This is not a complete list, but should get you started. As weather patterns change, selecting drought tolerant plants could mean the difference between well-stocked and barren landscapes.

PERENNIALS:

Achillea spp., Yarrow

Aethionema spp., Stonecress

Alcea rugosa, Hollyhock

Alyssum montanum, Alyssum

Amsonia jonesii, Amsonia

Antennaria spp., Pussytoes

Anthemis spp., Camomile

Armeria spp., Thrift

Artemisia spp., Wormwood

Asclepias tuberosa, Butterfly Milkweed

Aster divaricatus, Aster

Baptisia australis, False Indigo

Belamcanda chinensis, Blackberry-lily

Campanula poscharskyana, Serbian Bellflower

Centaurea spp., Bachelor's Button

Cerastium tomentosum, Snow-in-Summer

Comtonia peregrina, Sweetfern

Coreopsis verticillata, Tickseed

Dracocephalum spp., Dragonhead

Echinacea purpurea, Coneflower

Elymus glauca, Blue Lyme Grass

Eriogonum umbellatum, Sulfur Plant

Eryngium spp., Sea-Holly

Eupatorium spp., Joe-Pye-Weed

Euphorbia spp., Spurge

Festuca spp., Fescue

Gaillardia spp., Blanket Flower

Guara lindheimeri, Guara

Goniolimon tataricum, Tatarian Statice

Helianthemum nummularium, Common Sunrose

Helictotrichon sempervirens, Blue Oat Grass

Hypericum cerastoides, St.-John's-Wort

Hyssopus officinalis, Hyssop

Knautia spp., Pincushion Flower

Lavandula spp., Lavender

Liatris spp., Gay-Feather

Linaria spp., Toadflax

Nepeta cataria, Catnip

Oenothera spp., Sundrop

Opuntia spp., Prickly Pear

Origanum spp., Oregano

Penstemon caeapitosus, Mat Penstemon

Ratibida columnifera, Prairie Coneflower

Rudbeckia fulgida, cultivars (i.e. Gold-strum)

Ruta graveolens, Rue

Salvia spp., Sage

Santolina spp., Lavender-Cotton

Scutellaria spp., Scullcap

Sedum spp., Stonecrop

Sempervivum spp., Hens-and-Chick

Silene frivaldskyana, Champion

Solidago spp., Goldenrod

Stachys spp., Lamb's Ears

Symphytum spp., Comfrey

Thymus spp., Thyme

Verbascum thapsus, Mullein

Verbena bipinnatifida, Dakota Verbena

Waldsteinia ternata, Barren-Strawberry

Yucca spp., Adam's Needle