



# 400 TREES



**TREME**

**UPPER  
9th WARD**

**HOLLYGROVE  
-DIXON**

**LOWER  
9th WARD**

**NEW  
ORLEANS  
EAST**

**7th  
WARD**



## **In this packet, you will find:**

- Importance of planting trees in New Orleans (pg. 2)
- Examples of Past Tree Planting Projects (pg. 3)
- Smaller Types of Native Trees to Plant (pg. 4-6)
- Medium and Larger Types of Native Trees to Plant (pg. 7-9)
- Tree Maintenance and How to Request Care for Trees (pg. 10)
- Tree planting resident consent form (pg. 11)

## 🌳 Why Trees Matter on Our Block 🌳

Planting native trees is part of how we care for our streets, our health, our city, our environment, and each other.

Since Hurricane Ida and Katrina, New Orleans has lost over **100,000 trees**.

### Here's how trees help protect and strengthen our neighborhoods:

#### ☁️ Trees Help Soak Up Rainwater ☁️

Tree roots act like natural sponges, especially when we remove concrete around them. They reduce street flooding and protect our homes by absorbing stormwater. Native trees like Swamp Maple, Bald Cypress, and River Birch are made for our wet conditions and can drink over 1,000 gallons of rainwater per day!

#### ☀️ Trees Keep Our Homes and Streets Cooler ☀️

Trees give shade that can cool your block by up to 10°F. Homes with street trees spend less on AC during summer months. In hot cities like ours, trees protect us from extreme heat.

#### 👐 Trees Bring Beauty and Pride 👐

Trees add color, shape, and life to your street, from flowers to birds. They make blocks feel more peaceful and welcoming. Well-kept trees can increase property value and improve curb appeal.

#### ❤️ Trees Support Health and Community ❤️

Trees help clean the air, reduce noise, and make streets safer to walk (& walking improves heart health). They create space to gather, relax, and connect with neighbors. Healthy trees signal care, investment, and long-term roots in the neighborhood.



Trees in the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward drink and absorb rainwater during storm events.



Community Togetherness: Removing concrete and planting trees in Tremé



A tree lined street in the Lower 9th Ward provides shade on the sidewalk.



## Examples of past tree planting projects (clockwise):



- 1) Concrete removal and Sweetbay Magnolia trees planted on N. Galvez Street in the Upper 9<sup>th</sup> Ward.
- 2) Sweetbay Magnolia tree planted on Laine Avenue in New Orleans East.
- 3) Concrete removal and Red Oaks planted at the Treme Center along N Villere and St Philip Streets [In loving Memory of Mr. Winred Dalcour]



In many communities, we know trees can bring concerns: Will this damage my property? Will it make more mess? Will anyone take care of it?

We're planting native trees with care, with community voices leading the way and our team maintaining the trees for the first full year to make sure they grow strong and healthy.

### **What You Should Know:**

- The Water Wise Collective maintains the trees for the first year: watering, mulching, trimming, and replacing if needed. After the first year, maintenance is transferred over to the City of New Orleans Department of Parks and Parkways.
- We plant native trees that can tolerate our high temperatures and freezes, both wet and dry conditions, and generally require less maintenance.
- You'll get to choose your preferred species, and we'll work with you on the best location.

### **Questions or Concerns?**

We're here to talk. We want you to feel confident that this is a benefit — not a burden — and that we're in this together.

**Email Us at [info@waterwisegulfsouth.org](mailto:info@waterwisegulfsouth.org)**



# Smaller Native Trees

(Listed in Order of Height From Left to Right)

✓ These trees are ALLOWABLE under Power Lines ✓

**White Fringe**



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**Possumhaw Holly**



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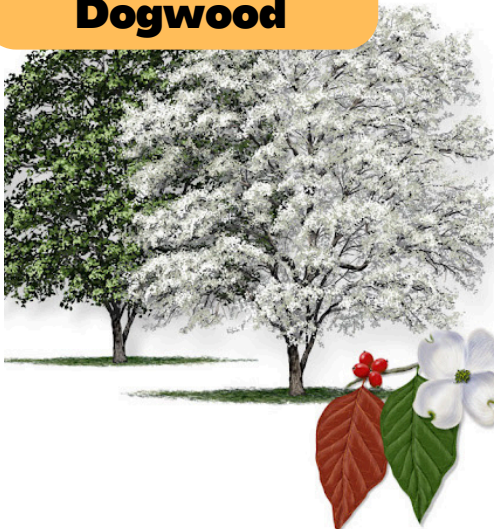
**Wax Myrtle\***



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**Flowering Dogwood**



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**Serviceberry**



**Eastern Redbud**



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**American Hornbeam**



Copyright © Robert

**Sweet bay Magnolia\***



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**American Holly\***



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## **Community Tree Selection Guide: Small Trees**






This guide provides a summary of Louisiana native trees available for planting in public rights-of-way. It is designed to help residents make informed decisions about tree species that are best suited for their neighborhood.

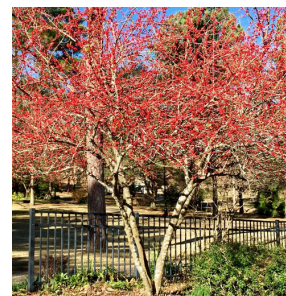
### **White Fringe**

-  Growth Rate: Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 8–10 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 15–20 ft
-  Cleanup: Low: small flowers and berries
-  Root Behavior: Shallow, non-invasive; 8 ft from structures








### **Possumhaw Holly**

-  Growth Rate: Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 10–12 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 15–20 ft
-  Cleanup: Low: small fruit drop, leaves drop
-  Root Behavior: Non-invasive; 6–8 ft from structures








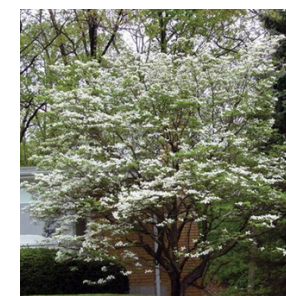
### **Wax Myrtle**

-  Growth Rate: Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 10–15 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 20–25 ft
-  Cleanup: Low: small leaves and berries
-  Root Behavior: Fibrous roots; 8–10 ft from structures



### **Flowering Dogwood**

-  Growth Rate: Slow to Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 6–10 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 15–20 ft
-  Cleanup: Moderate: leaves and red fruit drop
-  Root Behavior: Shallow, non-invasive; 10 ft from homes










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### **Serviceberry**

-  Growth Rate: Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 10–12 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 20–25 ft
-  Cleanup: Moderate: leaf and berry drop
-  Root Behavior: Non-invasive; 8–10 ft from structures








### **Eastern Redbud**

-  Growth Rate: Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 15–18 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 25 ft
-  Cleanup: Moderate: seed pods and leaves drop
-  Root Behavior: Shallow, spreading; 10 ft from structures








### **American Hornbeam**

-  Growth Rate: Slow to Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 10–15 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 20–30 ft
-  Cleanup: Low- drops leaves in fall, no messy fruit
-  Root Behavior: Shallow, non-invasive; 10 ft from structures








### **Sweetbay Magnolia**

-  Growth Rate: Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 10–15 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 25–30 ft
-  Cleanup: Low: evergreen, some seed pods
-  Root Behavior: Shallow, non-invasive; 10 ft from structures



### **American Holly**

-  Growth Rate: Slow to Moderate
-  Height at 10 Years: 8–12 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 20–30 ft
-  Cleanup: Low: evergreen, some berry drop,
-  Root Behavior: Deep, non-invasive; 10 ft from structures





# Medium and Large Native Trees

(Listed in Order of Height From Left To Right)

⊘ These trees are NOT ALLOWABLE under Power Lines ⊘

**Winged Elm**



**Southern Catalpa**



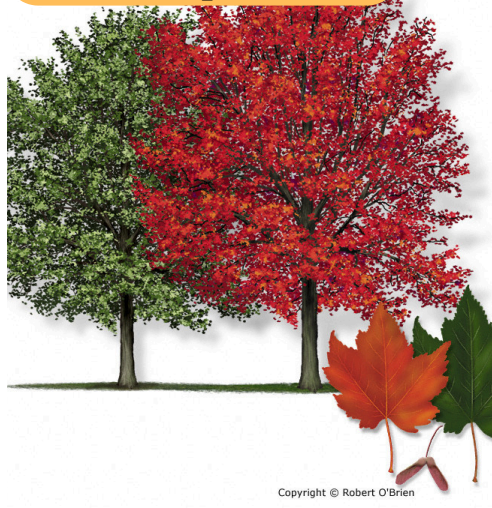
**River Birch**



**Sweet Gum**



**Swamp Red Maple**



**Green Ash**



**Red Oak**



**Pond Cypress**



**Sycamore**










## **Community Tree Selection Guide: Medium and Large Trees**






This guide provides a summary of Louisiana native trees available for planting in public rights-of-way. It is designed to help residents make informed decisions about tree species that are best suited for their neighborhood.

### **Winged Elm**

-  Growth Rate: Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 15–20 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 35–40 ft
-  Cleanup: Moderate: leaves and seeds drop
-  Root Behavior: Spreading roots; 15+ ft from structures








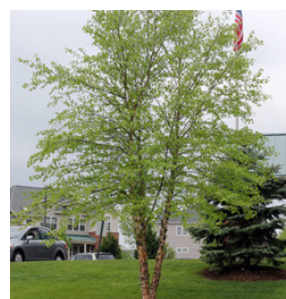
### **Southern Catalpa**

-  Growth Rate: Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 20 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 40 ft
-  Cleanup: High: large leaves, flowers, seed pods
-  Root Behavior: Shallow roots; 15–20 ft from structures








### **River Birch**

-  Growth Rate: Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 20 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 45 ft
-  Cleanup: Moderate: bark peels, leaf drop
-  Root Behavior: Non-aggressive; 12 ft from structures








### **Sweetgum**

-  Growth Rate: Moderate to Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 15–20 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 35–50 ft
-  Cleanup: High: drops spiky seed balls and leaves in fall
-  Root Behavior: Shallow roots; 15–20 ft from structures



### **Swamp Red Maple**

-  Growth Rate: Fast
-  Height at 10 Years: 15–20 ft
-  Height at 25 Years: 35–50 ft
-  Cleanup: Moderate: leaves and small seeds
-  Root Behavior: Surface roots; 15–20 ft from structures





## 🌳 Medium and Large Trees Continued 🌳

This guide provides a summary of Louisiana native trees available for planting in public rights-of-way. It is designed to help residents make informed decisions about tree species that are best suited for their neighborhood.

### Green Ash

- 🌱 Growth Rate: Fast
- 📏 Height at 10 Years: 20 ft
- 📏 Height at 25 Years: 40–50 ft
- 🧹 Cleanup: Moderate: leaves and seeds
- 🌱 Root Behavior: Surface roots; 15 ft from structures



### Red Oak: Nuttall Oak or Shumard Oak

- 🌱 Growth Rate: Fast
- 📏 Height at 10 Years: 20–25 ft
- 📏 Height at 25 Years: 45–55 ft
- 🧹 Cleanup: High: leaves and acorns
- 🌱 Root Behavior: Strong roots; 20 ft from structures



### Pond Cypress

- 🌱 Growth Rate: Moderate
- 📏 Height at 10 Years: 20 ft
- 📏 Height at 25 Years: 45–60 ft
- 🧹 Cleanup: Low: small leaf drop, few cones
- 🌱 Root Behavior: Deep roots, knees; 20 ft from structures



### Sycamore

- 🌱 Growth Rate: Very Fast
- 📏 Height at 10 Years: 25–30 ft
- 📏 Height at 25 Years: 60–70 ft
- 🧹 Cleanup: Very High: bark peels, large leaves, seed balls
- 🌱 Root Behavior: Aggressive roots; 25+ ft from structures



# **Tree Maintenance & Reporting**

While homeowners are not responsible for tree maintenance, your attention and awareness help the tree thrive. Trees are living things, and early detection of issues is important in the first year after planting. This will ensure that the tree stays healthy throughout its lifetime and causes less damage.








## **Who's Responsible?**

Water Wise Gulf South will monitor and maintain the tree during its first year, including watering, mulching, and pruning as needed.

After the first year, the City of New Orleans becomes responsible for long-term tree care in the public right-of-way.

## **What Should You Look Out For?**

Please contact Water Wise Gulf South (Year 1) or 3-1-1 (After Year 1) if you notice:

-  The tree is leaning, uprooted, or appears unstable
-  Browning or dropping leaves outside of fall season
-  Broken, split, or hanging limbs
-  Bark wounds or trunk damage (from vehicles, trimmers, etc.)
-  Watering issues or extremely dry soil around the base
-  Signs of pests or disease (holes in leaves, fungi, sap oozing, etc.)
-  The tree has been struck or damaged in a storm

## **How to Report Tree Issues During Year 1: Contact Water Wise Gulf South**

The best way to report an issue is to email [info@waterwisegulfsouth.org](mailto:info@waterwisegulfsouth.org). In the email, include the location of the tree and the reason why it is being reported.






## **How to Report Tree Issues After Year 1: Contact the City of New Orleans**

Dial 3-1-1 from your phone OR Submit a service request online: [nola311.org](http://nola311.org)

1. Select the request type as “Parks and Parkways”
2. Select the request reason: “Tree Service – Public Right-of-Way”
3. Then provide your address and description and photo of the issue.

## **Help Your Tree Thrive: Optional Ways You Can Support**

If you'd like to lend a hand, here's how to support your tree in its early years:

-  Water weekly during dry months (15–20 gallons is great!)
-  Keep mulch around the base (but not touching the trunk)
-  Never tie or chain bikes to the tree
-  Don't allow weedeater or mower traffic close to the trunk
-  Gently remove suckers (small shoots from the base)



# Resident Tree Planting Consent Form



## Section 1: Property Owner Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address (where trees will be planted): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 2: Tree Planting Authorization

I, the undersigned, confirm that I am the owner or legal occupant of the property listed above. I authorize WATER WISE GULF SOUTH and its partners to plant \_\_\_\_\_ [quantity] native tree(s) in the public right-of-way adjacent to my property, provided it adheres to the following placement guidelines:

- At least 5 feet from driveways, water meters, and storm drains
- At least 10 feet from fire hydrants
- At least 15 feet from utility/light poles and other trees
- At least 25 feet from intersections and traffic signs

I understand that the exact tree planting location will be confirmed on-site by the project team to comply with municipal code, utility safety regulations, and best arboricultural practices.

I understand that the Water Wise Collective will be responsible for maintaining the tree(s) in the first year, including weekly watering (as needed), mulching, trimming, replacing any dead trees, etc. After the first year, maintenance of trees will be the sole responsibility of the City of New Orleans Department of Parks and Parkways. **PROPERTY OWNER INITIAL HERE** \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 3: Tree Type Preferences

Due to availability and site conditions, we ask that you rank your top three preferred tree species from our approved native tree list. We will do our best to accommodate your top choice but may need to substitute from your rankings based on supply and planting conditions. **PROPERTY OWNER INITIAL HERE** \_\_\_\_\_

Rank Tree Species:

1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 4: Concrete Removal

Does concrete need to be removed to plant the tree(s)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please note that the concrete cut-out must be 24 square feet and grass & weed growth must be maintained by the property owner. **PROPERTY OWNER INITIAL HERE** \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 5: Feedback

Would you be willing to water the tree during intense dry periods for the first year?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

Would you like to be contacted for future Water Wise events?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you aware of any reason that a tree would be unrooted or damaged in any way?

☐ Yes: Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No

## Section 6: Signature

By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understood, and approve the terms of this agreement, including the tree planting at my address as described.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FOR OFFICE USE:

NEIGHBORHOOD CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

GRANT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TREE ID NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit Approved? ☐ Yes ☐ No