

Champaign Township

Tree Planting Guide

At Champaign Township, we have received a number of visits and calls from residents wanting to know what trees are permitted to be planted and which ones aren't.

To be perfectly honest, you may plant any type of tree you wish outside of the right-of-way or the easement on your property. However, you may wish to consult the following list to consider what trees are best in your area. For example, the Bradford or Callery Pear tree makes a beautiful, evenly shaped tree, but it is considered an invasive species as it has developed the ability to breed and seed itself. It grows nicely for about twenty to twenty-five years, but then becomes brittle and will lose branches or fall completely in a storm.

And, remember: All trees have a life-span. At some point, the tree will become brittle, be subject to rot and storm damage, and will eventually die.

Also: all in rights-of-way are subject to trimming for powerlines or removal for drainage.

Here are trees that may be planted along public rights-of-way:

Small Trees:

Crabapple (cultivars resistant to apple scab)	Hawthorn (thornless)	Laurel Magnolia
Corneliancherry Dogwood	Hornbeam	Loebner Magnolia
Kousa Dogwood	Japanese Tree Lilac	Redbud
Pagoda Dogwood	Amur Maple	Serviceberry
	Paperbark Maple	Carolina Silverbell
	Tatarian Maple	Tree form Viburnum

Medium to Large Trees:

Black Alder	Ironwood	Chestnut Oak
Bald Cypress	Katsura	Overcup Oak
Basswood	Crimean Linden	Red Oak
American Beech	Littleleaf Linden	Shingle Oak
European Beech	Silver Linden	Shumard Oak
Amur Corktree	Cucumber tree Magnolia	Swamp White Oak
Elm (cultivars resistant to Dutch Elm Disease)	Black Maple	White Oak
Turkish Filbert	Freeman Maple	Dawn Redwood
Ginkgo (male only)	Hedge Maple	Hardy Rubber Tree
Goldenraintree	Miyabe Maple	Sassafras
Hackberry	Red Maple	Tuliptree
Sugar Hackberry	Sugar Maple	Black Tupelo
European Hornbeam	Bur Oak	Yellowwood
	Chinkapin Oak	Japanese Zelkova

Trees that may NOT be planted along public rights-of-way:

Apple	Flowering Dogwood	Pin Oak
Arborvitae	American Elm	Scarlet Oak
Blue Ash	Siberian Elm	Russian Olive
Green Ash	Slippery Elm	Osage Orange
Mountain Ash	Empress Tree	Peach
White Ash	Fir	Pear
River Birch	Hemlock	Pecan
White Birch	Hickory	Pine
Boxelder	Honey Locust	Plum
Ohio Buckeye	Horse Chestnut	Poplar
Catalpa	Black Locust	Spruce
Cedar	Norway Maple	Sycamore
Cherry	Silver Maple	Tree of Heaven
Chestnut	Mimosa Tree	Walnut
Cottonwood	Mulberry	Willow

If there are any questions, please refer to the Champaign County Zoning and Planning Department at: 217-384-3708