

# Approved Trees 2019



Leisure World
Arizona

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# **AFRICAN SUMAC**

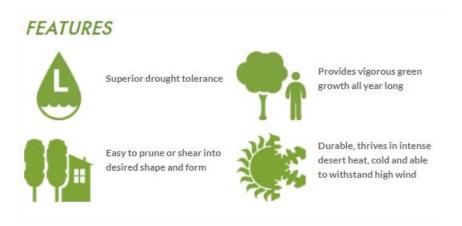
#### Rhus lancea





African Sumac offers superior drought tolerance so that it is a favorite shade tree for yards throughout the Southwest! Rhus lancea is from South Africa and features evergreen leaves so that they can provide great greenery all year long. We like to plant them as a useful screen, or tall hedge and their ability to withstand high wind make them ideal for use as a windbreak too. Specimens are stunning in a grassy area and begging to be explored by kids of all ages! An African Sumac tree is perfect for hot, dry, climates and for anyone that is looking for an attractive shade tree with a long lifespan.

A Rhus lancea African Sumac can be trained to a single trunk or allowed to grow into a multi-trunk tree with a look that resembles an olive tree. They are easy to prune or shear and have minimal maintenance requirements too! These are durable Rhus lancea that thrive in intense desert heat, can tolerate cold, and are very drought tolerant with little to moderate water needs once established. Plant them in a spot with full sun to partial shade exposure and enjoy its umbrella shaped form and low canopy that offers a cool shady spot for relief from the blazing sun!



#### **AUSTRALIAN BOTTLE TREE**

Brachychiton populneus

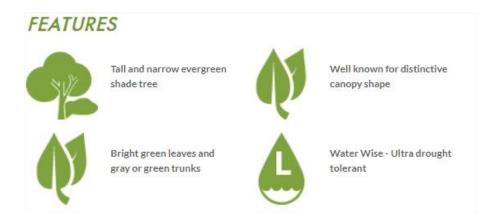
- Another common name is the Kurrajong
- Synonym Sterculia diversifolia
- An evergreen tree that is hardy and perfect for desert areas
- Excellent shade tree
- Small to medium sized tree

The Australian Bottle Tree, botanical name Brachychiton populneus, is a hardy evergreen shade tree with an attractive upright form and bright green leaves that enhance any



landscape. This small to medium-sized tree is an Australian native with a narrow growth habit that makes them a favorite for use in closed-in areas. Mature trees grow a distinctive canopy shape that helps to make them one of the best shade trees in the Southwest! We love the way the green leaves glisten in the breeze, creating a scene that is at once peaceful and beautiful. We also like to use them to block unwanted views and to help build a private yard.

Australian Bottle trees are perfect for low and intermediate desert areas. Ideal for any yard in the Southwest, these trees are also appreciated in yards throughout the Las Vegas area for their ability to be planted in rows where they can be used as a windbreak and for casting massive amounts of shade relief. The bottle tree thrives in a spot with full sun exposure. These are also water-wise trees, and since they are ultra-drought tolerant, they will have little to moderate water requirements once established.



#### **BRAZILIAN PEPPER**

Schinus terebinthefolius

The Brazilian Pepper is an attractive medium to large shade tree ideal for use in a patio or garden setting. Native to Brazil and right at home in the Southwest, homeowners can expect moderate growth from this drought tolerant, water wise tree. Easy to care for, once established it requires little to no water. This species loves the heat, so it is an ideal candidate for a scenic Southwestern landscape.

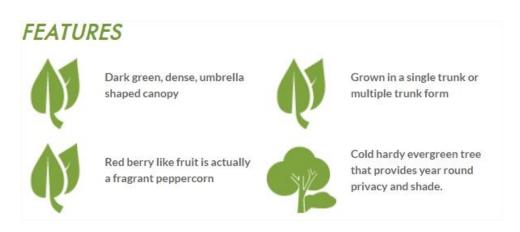


During winter, showy bright red berries appear, bringing a colorful look to any landscape.

An evergreen, the Brazilian Pepper Tree features dark glossy green leaves that contrast beautifully with the bright red berries. A winter time bloomer, the red berries come just in time for the Holiday's and stay on throughout the early to mid winter season. A mature specimen can grow a wide canopy spread and will provide a good amount of shade to help cool you off during those bright sunny days!



- Medium to Large shade tree
- Great tree for adding privacy to your property
- Attracts birds and butterflies
- Cut branches are often used in holiday themed flower arrangements



# **CAROB**

# Ceratonia siliqua



A durable, evergreen shade-provider, the Carob Tree has a unique look and gets the job done when shade is needed. Carob trees are a rugged, strong evergreen choice for just about any Western landscape style.



# **DESERT WILLOW**

# Chilopsis linearis

Desert Willow is a small to mediumsize tree that blends well with any landscape style and gets bonus points for being able to cast light shade! These Southwest natives feature willow-like, long and narrow leaves and they typically grow along desert washes, hence the name. They are fast becoming a favorite small tree in landscapes both for their size and for their fragrant, trumpet-shaped



blossoms that fill the air from spring to fall. The Penstemon flowers vary in color and range from pink to lavender, adding a beautiful contrast with the airy green foliage! Hummingbirds love the Desert Willow, especially in the summer, and if you're looking for a smaller tree that thrives in hot, arid climates, you'll love this Chilopsis linearis too!

This fast-growing tree thrives in a location that gets plenty of full sun exposure. Once established, Desert Willow is drought tolerant with little to moderate water requirements, with just enough water, it can keep blooming and looking nice and green throughout the warm months. Homeowners and landscapers alike rave about its low-maintenance features, and this is an excellent tree for adding visual interest, so if you're looking for an easy-care tree that can add lots of curb appeal, use this Desert Willow to decorate your yard!



# **EBONY (TEXAS)**

Pithecellobium flexicaule

- Also known by Ebenopsis ebano
- Easily fits into any landscape, can grow in small spaces!
- An excellent street tree or shade tree
- An evergreen tree that keeps its attractive foliage year-round
- Its rich grained wood is prized by woodworkers

The Texas Ebony is an outstanding tree that easily fits into any landscape. These sun-loving, drought tolerant trees produce



strong canopies during growth, making these burly trees able to tolerate strong winds. An exciting element of Texas Ebony trees is its twisting branches that give it personality and make it easily noticeable when it is placed among other trees. These are small to medium size trees so that they are ideal for any size yard throughout the Southwest!

Texas Ebony trees grow at a moderate rate, which makes the canopy height easily controllable. These trees perform masterfully in hot climates because they are native to the Chihuahuan desert and can accept a large variety of desert soils. Texas Ebony's bloom is a fascinating cream color during the spring to fall months, creating a show in your yard that is sure to get all the right attention!

We like to plant Texas Ebony trees so that everyone can enjoy the view; bigger trees can even provide shade! This tree is an excellent choice for our area and with nighttime landscape lighting installed, you can highlight the unique twisting branches and add some drama! Full sun exposure is ideal and once established, these are drought tolerant trees that can survive the driest conditions. They get bonus points for being able to tolerate wind and compacted soil.



# **EVERGREEN PEAR**

Pyrus calleryana

The Flowering Pear, Pyrus calleryana, is a vigorous tree that can add fantastic color to any type of landscape.

The Flowering Pear tree is noted for its profuse late winter or early spring show of white flowers and lustrous leaves. Adding to the interest are the broadly oval, scallop-edged leaves that go from glossy dark





green to a rich, purple-like red color in the fall. This change of colors is what gives us here in the Southwest the ability to see and feel the changes in the seasons.

A moderate to fast grower, Pyrus calleryana needs low to moderate watering once established. It loves full sun exposure and is a versatile tree that is highly resistant to fire-blight. Its firewise features make it an excellent choice for fire prone areas in the Southwest. Homeowners are sure to appreciate its easy to care for features, with pruning only required for shape and structure after flowering.

Another attractive feature, especially for homeowners in urban environments, is its tolerance for urban pollution. Feel free to plant this tree in an urban garden and bring natural beauty into the city. It's a perfect sized tree for an Asian/Zen garden or Mediterranean garden style. An ornamental tree, Flowering Pears produces a thick, umbrella shaped canopy that not only has a fantastic color but also provides an abundance of shade.



# **FAN TEX ASH**

Fraxinus velutina 'Fan Tex'

- Other common name is Velvet Ash
- A smaller sized deciduous Ash variety – ideal for small to medium size yards
- Superior tolerance of heat and arid conditions
- Grown from cuttings, not seeds (seedless Arizona Ash)
- Develops a spreading, rounded canopy when mature
- Attracts butterflies

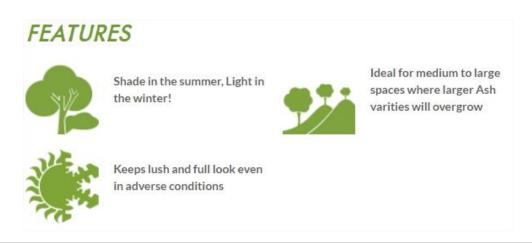
Fan Tex Ash is a seedless Arizona Ash



with superior tolerance to heat and arid conditions so that they can thrive in our area! These Ash trees are native to the southwestern United States and northern Mexico, where they naturally inhabit stream sides or

low pockets in canyons, and we like to use them as a deciduous shade tree that lets the warmth of the sun in during winter and blocks the sun during the warm summer months. These are also beautiful street trees with glossy green leaves that turn to shades of yellow and gold in the fall! One thing that almost everyone can agree on is that this cultivar creates a lush canopy even in adverse conditions.

This Fan Tex Ash growth rate is fast, and they have a tolerance for pollution so that they are an excellent choice for urban areas. These Ash trees thrive in a spot that gets plenty of full sun exposure! Plus, once established, they are drought tolerant with little to moderate watering needs. They can tolerate all kinds of soil conditions including acidic and alkaline as well as clay, loam, and sandy soil types.



# Ficus 'Indian Laurel'

#### Ficus nitida

The Ficus 'Indian Laurel' is one of the best medium to large shade trees you can find! Ficus nitida is native to Asia and Hawaii and is an evergreen tree ideal for growing in the Southwest. In fact, this single-trunk variety loves to grow where there's plenty of full sun exposure. Of course, one of its big selling features is its wide spreading canopy, which features lush green foliage that adds beauty to any environment. We love to plant them on any



landscape that could benefit from its generous shade capability.

- Fast growing evergreen tree, so you don't have to wait too long before you can enjoy all the benefits it provides
- A ficus nitida hedge provides excellent privacy block out unwanted views in style or create a backyard paradise!
- Excellent shade tree wide spreading canopy to cool you off during those sunny outdoor days!
- Can act as a natural sound barrier great for planting near busy streets such as highways and freeways!



# **HONEY LOCUST**

Gleditisia triacanthos L.

can reach a height of 20–30 m (66–98 ft), with fast growth, and are relatively short-lived; their life spans are typically about 120 years, though some live up to 150 years. They are prone to losing large branches in windstorms.



- Is very easy to plant and grow.
- Provides showy yellow color in the fall.
- Features pinnately or bipinnately compound leaves approximately 8" long with 8–14 leaflets. They are among the last leaves to emerge in the spring.
- Produces small, greenish-yellow blossoms arranged around spike-like stalks that are notably fragrant.
- Yields large, brown seed pods resembling twisted leather straps that are 7–8" long, sometimes reaching up to 18" in length.
- Develops a thin, airy crown that provides dappled shade while allowing grass to grow beneath.
- Tolerates wet and dry sites, salt, compacted soil, pollution and most other urban stresses.
- Grows in an oval or round shape.
- Can be used on hillsides to stabilize poor soil and control erosion.

#### **OLEANDER**

#### Nerium oleander

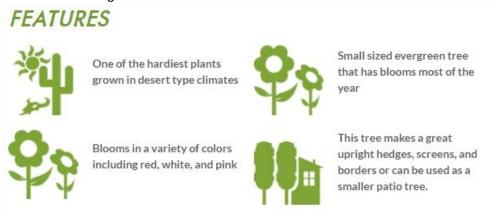
Oleander, Nerium oleander, is a super drought tolerant evergreen hedge or tree that can add vibrant color as well as privacy to your landscape. From the Mediterranean, this floriferous, fast-growing beauty is a staple in landscapes across the Western United States. It's a small to medium sized plant that makes an excellent "Living Fence." Colorful and fragrant white, red and pink flowers appear in late spring and into fall, to create a dazzling display of color. This versatile plant tolerates a wide range of soils and can be used as a hedge or tree, though many homeowners choose to use it as a hedge for use as a colorful privacy screen.



An Oleander will thrive in full sun with little to no water required once established. It's a versatile plant that can grow just fine in partial shade, too. Larger Oleanders can be easily trained into single or multi-trunked trees with dark green, leathery, and semi-glossy narrow leaves providing year round interest. Once in bloom, expect pollinators and hummingbirds to flock into your garden to enjoy the floriferous display of heavily scented single and double petal flowers.

Easy to care for, homeowners are sure to appreciate the low maintenance features of an Oleander plant. It features a real tight and neat appearance making this an excellent choice for patios or growing in a container. Feel free to plant along the seaside, as Oleanders can tolerate salt spray. This popular tree or hedge is compatible with a wide range of landscape styles. Because of its versatility, it can be used for hedges, screens, large accents or focal points in your landscape.

- Versatile can grow from the desert to the seaside
- Low maintenance, easy care
- Fragrant flowers attract hummingbirds
- Makes an excellent privacy hedge
- Drought tolerant
- Can tolerate salt spray good plants for coastal areas
- Tolerates a wide range of soils



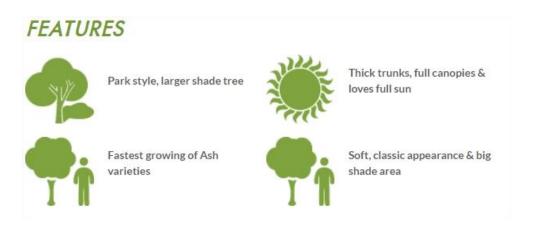
#### SHAMEL ASH 'EVERGREEN ASH'

Fraxinus udhei



The Shamel Ash, also known as the 'Evergreen Ash', is a favorite waterwise, fast-growing shade tree perfect for just about any landscape in Southern California and low-elevation deserts. A native to Mexico, this sun-loving, fast-growing tree can grow up to 40-feet tall and wide in just 20 years. Expect a large canopy that provides a generous amount of shade. Simple to grow, Shamel Ash or Evergreen Ash is generally grown in parks, commercial areas, and can be seen adorning large landscapes.

The classic, larger-leaved, green foliage is attractive and complements just about any landscape in Southern California. It is easy to see why the Evergreen Ash is such a popular tree grown in parks and backyards - its striking beauty and large, natural shade cover makes it an ideal picnic tree. Homeowners can care for this tree easily. It is an extremely drought tolerant tree and will need very little water once it has been established.



# **SIBERIAN ELM**

Ulmus pumila

Fast-growing deciduous tree, reaching heights of 50 to 100 feet. Crown is open and rounded with slender, drooping branches, reaching a diameter of 35 to 50 feet.

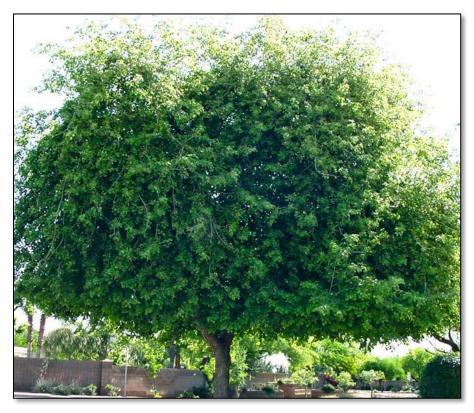
Small, greenish flowers emerge in March to April. They have no petals, but form drooping clusters which appear before the tree leafs out. Leaves are followed by half-inch-long, flat, brownish winged seedpods that mature during early summer.

Handles dry soils not easily tolerated by other species. Prefers full sun. Found along roadsides, streams and home landscapes.



# **SISSOO**

# Dalbergia sissoo



The Sissoo tree is an extremely drought tolerant, fast growing evergreen with gentle fluttering leaves that has been thriving in drought ridden climates for decades. Noted for their bright green, aspen-like foliage, slightly twisted trunk and branching pattern, the Sissoo are perfectly at home in Western landscapes as large shade providers.

With its classic-style leafy shade tree appearance, these low water using trees have become increasingly popular and are appearing more and more in virtually every style of landscape for their ability to provide cooling shade around homes with very low amounts of water.

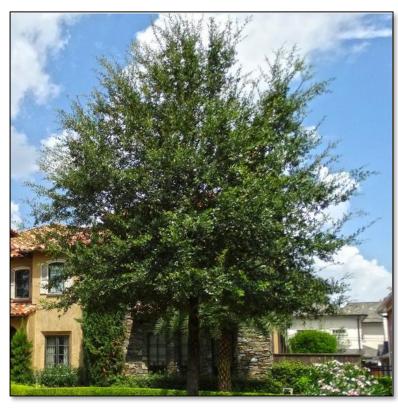


#### **SOUTHERN LIVE OAK**

## Quercus virginiana

Southern Live Oak, Quercus virginiana, is the "mighty oak of the South" that looks right at home planted in Southwestern landscapes. It is native to the coastal plains of the southeastern U.S and grows at a moderate rate. It is a large evergreen shade tree noted for its beauty and extreme drought tolerance. Once established it will require low water, just let nature do the rest. This beauty will thrive in your landscape with full sun and little to no special care required.

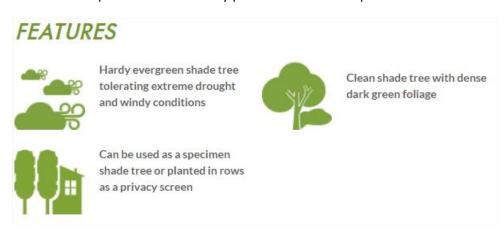
Families are sure to love this Southern Live Oak tree. Create lasting memories around this long



life span oak. Its dense, gray/green foliage and large spreading crown provides an ideal shady spot for a picnic on your lawn. Carve your initials into the impressive trunk or host a backyard get together and hang a piñata on the durable tree limbs. If you are looking for a climbing tree, a mature specimen is just begging to be climbed.

This habitat tree attracts a variety of small wildlife. A great provider, acorns fall in autumn and serve as a food source for many animals. Feel free to install owl boxes, hang bird feeders and enjoy the bird watching spectacle.

This is the best oak for lawn planting. Homeowners that plant a Southern Live Oak tree in their landscape will be able to appreciate the many benefits of this majestic beauty for generations upon generations. Feel free to speak with our nursery pro and ask us about placement ideas.



# **TIPU**

(Tipuana tipu)

One of if not the best shade tree you can plant on your property to not only give you great shade but year round beauty is a Tipu tree. Tipuana tipu, is a fast growing, colorful flowering medium to large sized tree that can provide a great amount of shade, as well as beauty for your landscape. From South America, Tipu trees put on a unique show of golden blooms from late spring into early summer that contrast beautifully



with its feathery, bright bluish green foliage. It's a showy, semi-evergreen tree with abundant nectar that is sure to attract butterflies and pollinators into your garden. The Tipu tree also features a fissured bark texture which adds to its showy characteristic.

Tipu trees are drought tolerant once established and will require full sun exposure as well as low to moderate water use. In the Southwest, especially in the desert, shade can be a lifesaver. Homeowners looking for an attractive shade tree with striking features will love this tree. It makes a good street tree or lawn tree and is a useful tree for a patio or terrace too. Have a picnic under a Tipu tree and enjoy the natural beauty and shade that this showy tree provides.





Fast growing shade tree



Shows coat of golden blooms in late Spring



Thrives in intense desert heat and cold



Great where a high canopy is desired

#### **YEW PINE**

# Podocarpus gracilior

- Other common name is Fern Pine, African Fern Pine
- Synonym Afrocarpus gracilior, Afrocarpus elongatus
- Low-maintenance tree
- Excellent along sidewalks, in boulevards, patios, used as a privacy screen

Podocarpus gracilior or Fern Pine is prized for its clean evergreen looks, low maintenance requirements, resistance to pests and disease, and wide tolerance of growing conditions. From eastern Africa, this Podocarpus gracilior is a versatile, fast growing plant popular with homeowners looking for good privacy screens, windbreakers and background plants for their landscape.

Homeowners can get creative with the shape of this evergreen shrub or tree. Podocarpus gracilior can be trimmed down to fit into tighter forms, or be left alone to reach heights of up to 40-feet. It is a common sight to see Podocarpus gracilior trees or shrubs trimmed and shaped as a ball, cone or column on lawns, patios, streets, or gardens throughout the Southwest. It looks good whichever shape you want it to take and however you want to use it on your landscape.



The Fern pine is a fast grower that thrives in full sun and exhibits good looks thanks to its soft, lush, green foliage. It can thrive in full sun or partial shade, and looks good in rural, suburban and urban conditions. The roots of this tree rarely lift or crack sidewalks, so feel free to plant near structures, sidewalks, or patios. Homeowners will often use this species as a barrier hedge or have some planted along a fence.

Podocarpus gracilior is a single trunk species that combines well with tropical landscapes and most any type of environment in the Southwest. Easy to care for with moderate water needs, once established, pruning is not needed unless you want a particular size and shape. If you are using it as a tree form, you can expect to get some nice shade cover. Plant near a room around your house and keep the room cool during those heat waves, you might even save some money on your electric bill.

