



# City of St. Helena

## Master Street Tree List



St. Helena Tree Committee  
Updated November 2004



The St. Helena Tree Committee recently completed this update to the Master Street Tree List to create greater overall aesthetic unity to the urban forest in St. Helena.

Through the use of aerial photographs and extensive surveys throughout the City to catalog existing trees, the Committee changed the format of the Master Street Tree List to be categorized by type of street instead of listings defined only by size.

St. Helena streets have been divided into three categories (Categories I, II, and III). Category I streets are large commercial streets bearing heavy traffic. Category II streets are major, in-town streets, and Category III are smaller neighborhood streets. The update also includes special sections geared towards the industrial park and special trees – new varieties for introduction as City street trees.

Please note that each proposal for planting, removal and/or tree work must still be routed through the permit process for approval *prior* to starting work of any kind. In accordance with St. Helena Municipal Code, Section 12.24.050, The Master Street Tree List also includes a listing of “undesirable trees.” These trees cannot be planted without approval from the Director of Public Works and root-control barriers.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding the Master Street Tree List, please contact:

Department of Public Works  
 publicworks@ci.st-helena.ca.us  
 (707)968-2658

\* For further information about the trees presented in this guide please refer to the Sunset – Western Garden Guide.



Category I

Adams (East of Main)  
 Crane Avenue (to Valley View)  
 Main Street  
 Pope Street  
 Pratt Avenue  
 Spring Mountain Road  
 Sulphur Springs Avenue  
 (to Crane Ave.)

Category II

Adams Street (West of Main)  
 Grayson Avenue  
 Hunt Avenue  
 Madrona Avenue  
 Mitchell Avenue  
 Spring Street  
 Starr Avenue

Category III

All other streets  
 within City limits  
 not listed within the  
 first two Categories  
 or as Special Trees.

Special Trees

Industrial Park

# Tree Form Guide\*

Fastigate: Very narrow, tapering to a point  
Spreading: (At least) as wide as tall  
Rounded top: A distinctly rounded profile  
Weeping: Pendulous branches

Columnar: Extremely narrow, not possessing a pointed tip  
Open headed: Loose branch like structure, indistinct silhouette  
Pyramidal: Almost conical outline



Fastigate.



Columnar.



Spreading.



Open headed.



Rounded top.



Pyramidal.



Weeping.

\* As noted throughout the St. Helena Master Street Tree List

Category I— Large commercial streets bearing heavy traffic						
COMMON NAME <i>Botanical Name</i>	Form	Growth Rate	Average Spread in 25-30 years	Roots adapt to confined spaces	Drought Tolerance	Comments
SCARLET MAPLE <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Rounded  Deciduous	Moderate/Fast	H 35' -60' W 30' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory (in maturity)	Prefers moist areas. Brilliant red twigs, buds and showy flowers. Great fall color.
TRIDENT MAPLE <i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Rounded /Deciduous	Moderate/Fast	H 20' - 25' W 20' - 25'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Low spreading growth; prune to make tree branch higher. Fall color.
CHINESE HACKBERRY <i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Rounded/Deciduous	Moderate/ Fast	H 30' - 40' W 30' - 40'	Excellent	Excellent	Resembles Elm tree but is not susceptible to Dutch Elm disease.
CRAPE MYRTLE <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Rounded/Compact  Deciduous	Slow	H 12' - 25' W 15' - 20'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Crimson to white flowers throughout Summer. Brilliant Fall color
CHINESE PISTACHE <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Rounded/Spreading  Deciduous	Moderate	H 60' W 30' - 40'	Excellent	Excellent	Other varieties include the "Keith Davey" strain. Beautiful Fall color.
LONDON PLANE TREE <i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	Spreading  Deciduous	Fast	H 40' - 80' W 30" - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Favored varieties include the "Columbia" strain, it is resistant to mildew and anthracnose. Large Maple-like leaves.
ORNAMENTAL PEAR <i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Pyramidal	Fast	H 30' - 40' W 15' - 20'	Excellent	Excellent	White spring flowers. Tree is resistant to fire blight. Other varieties include the "Chanticleer." Fall color.

Category II – Major in-town streets						
COMMON NAME <i>Botanical Name</i>	Form	Growth Rate	Average Spread in 25-30 years	Roots adapt to confined spaces	Drought Tolerance	Comments
SCARLET MAPLE <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Rounded	Moderate/ Fast	H 50' - 60' W 30' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory (in maturity)	Prefers moist areas. Brilliant red twigs, buds and showy flowers. Great fall color.
COMMON CATALPA <i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	Spreading	Slow/Moderate	H 30' - 40' W 30' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Purple flower clusters; resistant to Oak root fungus.
CHINESE PISTACHE <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Rounded /Spreading	Slow/Moderate	H 30' - 60' W 30' - 50'	Excellent	Excellent	Other varieties include the "Keith Davey" strain. Beautiful Fall color.
LONDON PLANE TREE <i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	Spreading	Fast	H 40' - 80' W 30" - 40'	Satisfactory/ Excellent	Satisfactory	Large Maple-like leaves. The variety "Colombia" is resistant to anthracnose, mildew.
ORNAMENTAL PEAR <i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Pyramidal	Fast	H 30' - 50' W 30' - 50'	Excellent	Excellent	White spring flowers. Tree is resistant to fire blight. Best varieties include the "Chanticleer" and "Aristocrat."
MAGNOLIA TREE <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Uniform Spreading/ Evergreen	Slow	H 25' - 50' W 30' - 40'	Poor	Satisfactory	Rust colored downy under leaves with large fragrant flowers. Leave litter.
TULIP TREE <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Pyramidal/ Deciduous	Fast	H 60' - 80' W 40'	Poor	Satisfactory	Tulip shaped green-yellow flowers and yellow Fall foliage.
RED OAK <i>Quercus rubra</i>	Spreading Deciduous	Fast	H 60' - 95' W 30' - 50'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Red-orange Fall foliage.
COAST LIVE OAK <i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Rounded/Spreading & Evergreen	Moderate/Fast	H 20' - 70' W 30' - 50'	Poor	Excellent	Drops old leaves in Spring.
LITTLE LEAF LINDEN <i>Tillia cordata</i>	Pyramidal/ Deciduous	Moderate	H 30' - 50' W 15' - 30'	Excellent	Excellent	Fragrant summer flowers, heart shaped leaves provide seasonal interest.

Category III – Neighborhood streets						
COMMON NAME <i>Botanical Name</i>	Form	Growth Rate	Average Spread in 25-30 years	Roots adapt to confined spaces	Drought Tolerance	Comments
SCARLET OAK <i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Rounded	Moderate	H 30' - 50' W 20' - 30'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Tree exhibits bright scarlet leaves in the fall.
BLUE OAK <i>Quercus douglasii</i>	Rounded	Moderate/ Deciduous	H 30' - 50' W 40' - 70'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Bluish green leaves turning orange, yellow in fall.
HOLLY OAK <i>Quercus ilex</i>	Rounded/ Deciduous	Moderate	H 20' - 25' W 15'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Attractive small scale Oak with oval leaves that are dark green on top and silvery underneath. Prune off suckers at base of tree.
BLACK OAK <i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	Spreading/ Deciduous	Moderate	H 30' - 60' W 25' - 40'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Black Oaks have attractive pink tinged leaves in the spring and yellow in the fall.
PIN OAK <i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pyramidal	Moderate/ Fast	H 30' - 50' W 20' - 30'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Beautiful form; only drawback is that dried leaves remain on tree until late winter. Yellow, red Fall color.
CORK OAK <i>Quercus suber</i>	Spreading	Slow/Moderate	H 25' - 40' W 20' - 30'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Corky bark on trunk adds interest to graceful form of tree.
SOUTHERN LIVE OAK <i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Rounded/ Spreading	Moderate	H 30' - 40' W 25' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Evergreen to partly deciduous in St. Helena. Beautiful shade tree. Best in deep, rich, moist soil.

**Category III - Neighborhood streets (cont.)**

**EVERGREEN TREES**

<b>COMMON NAME</b> <i>Botanical Name</i>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Growth Rate</b>	<b>Average Spread in 25-30 years</b>	<b>Roots adapt to confined spaces</b>	<b>Drought Tolerance</b>	<b>Comments</b>
MAGNOLIA TREE <i>Magnolia Grandiflora</i>	Spreading	Slow/Moderate	H 25' - 60' W 30' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Other varieties include: Majestic Beauty, Russet, St. Mary's, and Samuel Sommer. Trees show rust colored downy under leaves with large fragrant flowers.
CAJEPUT TREE <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	Fastigate	Fast	H 20' - 40' W 20'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Bark is thick and spongy; tan peeling to white. White flowers.
CALIFORNIA BAY <i>Umbellularia californica</i>	Spreading	Slow	H 20' - 40' W 20' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Resistant to aphids and scale; will grow in shade. Can be shaped to many forms.

**Category III - Neighborhood Streets (cont.)**

**DECIDUOUS TREES**

<b>COMMON NAME</b> <i>Botanical Name</i>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Growth Rate</b>	<b>Average Spread in 25-30 years</b>	<b>Roots adapt to confined spaces</b>	<b>Drought Tolerance</b>	<b>Comments</b>
SCARLET MAPLE <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Rounded	Fast	H 30' - 40' W 20' - 25'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory (in maturity)	Prefers moist areas. Brilliant red twigs, buds and showy flowers. Great fall color.
CHINESE HACKBERRY <i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Spreading/ Deciduous	Moderate/ Fast	H 30' - 40' W 20'	Excellent	Excellent	Resembles Elm tree but is not susceptible to Dutch Elm disease.
ENGLISH HAWTHORN <i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	Deciduous	Moderate	H 18' - 25' W 15' - 20'	Excellent	Excellent	Striking red, pink, or white blooms in Spring. Vivid red fruit (small).
WASHINGTON THORN <i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	Spreading	Moderate/Fast	H 20' - 25' W 25'	Excellent	Excellent	White Spring flowers and orange-red leaves in Fall. Shiny red fruit; graceful and not prone to fire blight.
FRUITLESS OLIVE TREE/ OLEA (many fruitless varieties)	Rounded	Slow	H 25' - 30' W 25' - 30'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Soft gray green foliage, with gnarly trunks. Fruitless varieties include the Wilsoni, Swan Hill, Majestic Beauty.

### Category III - Neighborhood streets (cont.)

#### DECIDUOUS TREES

COMMON NAME <i>Botanical Name</i>	Form	Growth Rate	Average Spread in 25-30 years	Roots adapt to confined spaces	Drought Tolerance	Comments
WILLOW LEAF PEPPERMINT <i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	Weeping	Fast	H 35' - 45' W 15' - 35'	Excellent	Excellent	Graceful, willowy form. Crushed leaves smell like peppermint.
GINKGO TREE <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Pyramidal	Slow	H 35' - 50' W 30'	Excellent	Excellent	Varieties include: Autumn Gold, Fairmount, and Saratoga. Tree exhibits brilliant yellow fall color. Only male trees allowed in St Helena (female trees have foul smelling fruit).
CHINESE FLAME TREE <i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Deciduous	Moderate	H 20' - 40' W 30'	Excellent	Excellent	Fruit clusters are decorative rust colored lanterns. Deep rooted tree.
GOLDENRAIN TREE <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Spreading	Moderate	H 20' - 35' W 25' - 40'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Deep rooted; Leaves are reddish in spring and green in summer.
CRAPE MYRTLE <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Rounded Compact	Slow	H 12' - 15' W 15' - 20'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Crimson to white flowers throughout Summer. Brilliant orange to red Fall foliage.
TULIP TREE <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Pyramidal/ Deciduous	Moderate/ Fast	H 60' W 25'	Poor	Satisfactory	Yellow fall foliage. Tulip shaped green-yellow flowers.
SOUR GUM TREE <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Spreading	Fast	H 30' - 50' W 15' - 25'	Poor/Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Fall foliage is yellow, orange and bright red. Reddish bark in winter.

### Category III – Neighborhood streets (cont.)

#### DECIDUOUS TREES

COMMON NAME <i>Botanical Name</i>	Form	Growth Rate	Average Spread in 25-30 years	Roots adapt to confined spaces	Drought Tolerance	Comments
LONDON PLANE TREE <i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	Spreading	Fast	H 40' - 80' W 30" - 40'	Satisfactory/ Excellent	Satisfactory	Favored varieties include the "Bloodgood" strain. The "Columbia" variety is resistant to mildew and anthracnose. Large Maple-like leaves.
CHINESE PISTACHE <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Rounded/ Spreading	Moderate	H 30' W 25'	Excellent	Excellent	Other varieties include the "Keith Davey" strain. Beautiful Fall color.
ORNAMENTAL PEAR <i>Pyrus calleroana</i>	Pyramidal	Fast	H 30' - 40' W 15' - 20'	Poor	Excellent	White spring flowers. Tree is resistant to fire blight. Best varieties include the "Chanticleer." Yellow-orange leaves in Fall.
PINK LOCUST <i>Robinia idahoensis</i>	Spreading	Fast	H 25' - 40' W 15'	Poor	Excellent	Beautiful pink, sweet pea like Spring Blooms with lacy foliage. 4' bean like pods. Aggressive roots and brittle wood.
CHINESE TALLOW TREE <i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Rounded	Moderate/Fast	H 30' - 40' W 25' - 30'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Poplar-like leaves with flaming Fall color.
CHINESE SCHOLAR TREE <i>Sophora japonica</i>	Rounded	Slow/Moderate	H 50' - 70' W 20' - 30'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Sweet pea like clusters of yellow-white flowers in summer. Flowers and pods can stain paved surfaces.
LITTLE LEAF LINDEN <i>Tillia cordata</i>	Pyramidal	Moderate/ Fast	H 30' - 50' W 15' - 30'	Excellent	Excellent	Fragrant summer flowers and lacy foliage provide seasonal interest.
SILVER LINDEN <i>Tillia tomentosa</i>	Spreading	Moderate/Fast	H 40' - 50' W 20' - 30'	Excellent	Excellent	Fragrant summer flowers with silvery leaves that shimmer in the wind.

**Category III - Neighborhood streets (cont.)**

**THE OAKS**

<b>COMMON NAME</b> <i>Botanical Name</i>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Growth Rate</b>	<b>Average Spread in 25-30 years</b>	<b>Roots adapt to confined spaces</b>	<b>Drought Tolerance</b>	<b>Comments</b>
SCARLET OAK <i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Pyramidal to Rounded	Moderate	H 30' - 50' W 20' - 30'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Tree exhibits bright scarlet leaves in the fall.
HOLLY OAK <i>Quercus ilex</i>	Rounded	Moderate	H 20' - 25' W 15'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Attractive small scale Oak with oval leaves that are dark green on top and silvery underneath. Prune off suckers at base of tree.
BLACK OAK <i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	Spreading	Moderate	H 30' - 60' W 25' - 40'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Black Oaks have attractive pink tinged leaves in the spring and yellow in the fall.
VALLEY OAK <i>Quercus lobata</i>	Spreading	Moderate	H 40' - 60' W 30' - 50'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Occasional outbreaks of California Oak Worm are easily controlled with IPM techniques.
PIN OAK <i>Quercus pallustris</i>	Pyramidal to Rounded	Moderate/ Fast	H 30' - 50' W 20' - 30'	Excellent	Satisfactory	Beautiful form; only drawback is that dried leaves remain on tree until late winter.
CORK OAK <i>Quercus suber</i>	Spreading	Moderate	H 25' - 40' W 20' - 30'	Satisfactory	Excellent	Corky bark on trunk adds interest to graceful form of tree.
LOUISIANA OAK <i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Spreading	Moderate	H 30' - 40' W 25' - 40'	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Evergreen to partly deciduous in St. Helena. Beautiful shade tree.

Trees specifically for the Industrial Park*		
Includes the following streets: Vintage Ave., Dowdell Lane, McCorkle, La Fata, and Mills Lane.		
COMMON NAME	Botanical Name	Comments
Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	These three trees have been chosen for the industrial park area due to their full stature and large presence.
Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergeranum</i>	
London Plane Tree	<i>Platanus acerfolia</i>	
Further information regarding the above trees can be found within the Master Street Tree list.		

\* Trees on this list require approval from the Director of Public Works prior to planting.

### Special Trees for Special Places\*

Trees on this list are new and/or unique species for possible inclusion to the Master Tree List at a later date.

COMMON NAME	Botanical Name	Comments
Norway Maple, Schwedler Maple	<i>Acer plantanoides</i>	Grows 50 to 60 feet tall and wide. Purple red leaves in spring turn to dark bronzy green in summer and gold in Fall.
Tatarian Maple	<i>Acer tataricum</i>	Reaches 20-25 feet high and wide; tooth edged leaves. Showy red winged seeds appear in summer with yellow to reddish brown Fall color.
Australian Tea Tree	<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Grows 10 to 30 feet tall with tear drop shaped leaves. Drought tolerant Substantial and useful plant with white, pink, or red flowers.
Lombardy Poplar	<i>Populus nigra</i>	Male selection of a European native; beautiful columnar tree 40 to 100 feet tall. Bright green leaves that turn golden yellow in Fall.
Sawleaf Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Moderate to Fast growth rate; up to 60 feet in height and width. Yellow, red, and brown Fall foliage. Suitable in larger planting areas.

\* Trees on this list require approval from the Director of Public Works prior to planting.

### Undesirable Trees\*

\* Trees placed on this list are not generally approved for St. Helena street trees; permission to plant requires a variance from the St. Helena Tree Committee.

COMMON NAME	Botanical Name	Comments
Ornamental Plum Tree	<i>Prunus blieriana</i>	Produces messy fruit, short life span
Purple Leaf Plum Tree	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Produces messy fruit, short life span
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Does not do well in Mediterranean climates.
American Sweet Gum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Surface roots heave up paving.
Chestnut (all varieties)	<i>Aesculus</i>	Nuts and pods litter on paving.
Raywood Ash (and other Ash varieties)	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Roots heave paving.
Birch (all varieties)	<i>Betula</i>	High water requirements, prone to borers and aphids.
Willow (all varieties)	<i>Salix</i>	Not suitable as a street tree
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Invasive species.
Acacia (all varieties)	<i>Acacia</i>	Not suitable as a street tree.
Box Elder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	Too large for to be classified as a St. Helena street tree.
Crab Apple	<i>Rosaceae</i>	Large fruit bearing are prohibited in St. Helena
Canary Island Date Palm	<i>Phoenix arecaceae (Palmea)</i>	Large fruit bearing are prohibited in St. Helena
Eucalyptus (most varieties)	<i>Myrtaceae</i>	Not suitable as a street tree.
Camphor tree	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Aggressive roots make it undesirable as a street tree.

**Notes:** The City of St. Helena does not allow fruit, citrus, or nut trees to be planted in the City's right of way.