



Important Part of Our Environment

Trees provide many environmental benefits such as moderating climate, improving air quality, conserving water, and harboring wildlife.

Valuable Resource to the Zoo

Trees are used to:

- Provide natural habitats for the animals
- Supply enrichment and browse to the animals and wildlife in the park
- Improve water quality in our community by filtering run-off water
- Protect soil from erosion
- Create windscreens to deflect and direct wind flow
- Provide shade for our guests
- Display the beauty that our “natural state” is known for
- Create a park-like setting to be enjoyed by young and old alike

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Tree ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
1	American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Beautiful red berries
2	Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Grows in wet areas
3	Blackjack Oak	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	Grows on poor, dry soil
4	Bottle Brush Buckeye	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	White flowers in spring
5	Callery Pear "Bradford"	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Used for browse
6	Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Unusual large leaves
7	Chalk Maple	<i>Acer leucoderme</i>	Grows on streambanks
8	Chinaberry	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Also called "rosary tree"
9	Crapemyrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Beautiful summer color
10	Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Good for wildlife food
11	Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Beautiful spring flowers
12	Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	Beautiful spring color
13	Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Fruits look like olives
14	Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Used for browse
15	Hickory	<i>Carya spp</i>	Good for wildlife food
16	Holly	<i>Ilex spp</i>	Many different varieties
17	Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Unusual large seed pods
18	King Maya Palm	<i>Chamaedorea hooperiana</i>	Tropical tree
19	Loblolly Pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Fragrant year round
20	Mediterranean Fan Palm	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Cold hardy palm tree
21	Mulberry	<i>Morus spp</i>	Used for browse
22	Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Bright red in fall
23	Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Delicious edible nuts
24	Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>	Grows on poor, dry soil
25	Purple Leaf Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Edible purple fruit
26	River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Grows on streambanks
27	Sawtooth Oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Unusual large acorns
28	Shortleaf Pine	<i>Pinus echinata</i>	Produces small cones
29	Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Fast growing shade tree
30	Southern Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Large fragrant flowers
31	Sugarberry	<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Used for browse
32	Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Beautiful fall color
33	Texas Palmetto	<i>Sabal mexicana</i>	Cold hardy palm tree
34	Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Fast growing shade tree
35	Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	White flowers in spring
36	Water Oak	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Grows on wet sites
37	White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Large shade tree
38	Willow	<i>Salix spp</i>	Used for browse
39	Willow Oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Good urdan shade tree
40	Yaupon Holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Used for windscreen

LITTLE ROCK ZOO TREE GUIDE



Arkansas's only AZA accredited Zoo
located on 37 acres in a park-like setting in
the Natural State's capitol city.



#1 Zoo Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205
www.LittleRockZoo.com

Be Aware of Threats to Trees

Habitat Destruction

Human activities such as logging, agriculture, and residential construction can destroy habitats. When forests are turned into parking lots and strip malls, the original native trees, as well as the animals specific to forest habitats, could be lost forever.

Introduced Pests and Diseases

Our native trees often have no defense against insect pests and diseases from other parts of the world. When these organisms are accidentally introduced, the ecological and economic damage can be enormous. Ozark Chinquapins (*Castanea pumila* var. *ozarkensis*), American Elms (*Ulmus americana*) and Butternuts (*Juglans cinerea*) have been virtually eliminated from Arkansas's forests by introduced diseases.

The Emerald Ash Borer, an Asian beetle, has killed hundreds of thousands of ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) in the Midwest since 2002. In 2008 a population was discovered in Missouri, not far from the Arkansas border. As of 2010, it has not yet been found in Arkansas.



Invasive Plants

Non-native invasive plants can compete with and displace native species. Well-known invasive plants include Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*), Privet (*Ligustrum* spp.) and Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*). Invasive tree species in Arkansas include Chinaberry (*Melia azadirach*), Chinese Tallow Tree (*Sapium sebiferum*), and Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). These trees were originally planted for their ornamental value and have escaped cultivation.

Tree Planting Tips

Plant native trees. Before you plant a tree, carefully evaluate the site in order to select the best tree. Consider the eventual size of the mature tree:

1. Will the tree's roots have enough room to grow?
2. Will the tree interfere with nearby roofs, sidewalks or overhead utilities?
3. Is the site mostly sunny or shady?

The Arkansas Forestry Commission or the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service can help you select the right trees for your property.



“Plant life-sustaining trees for their beauty, bounty, ornamental characteristics, and the habitat and food they provide for wildlife.”

For information on purchasing a commemorative tree as a living legacy contact the Little Rock Zoo Development or Facilities Operations departments at 501-661-7230.