

## How to Plant Your Tree

**1. Prepare the planting area.** Mark an area several times wider than the root ball diameter (the wider the better). Loosen this area to about the depth of the root ball. This will enable your tree to extend a dense mat of tiny roots well into the soil in the first several months in the ground. Before digging, call 811. Know what's below.

**2. Dig the hole** in the center of the loosened area, 2-3 times the diameter of the root ball and no deeper than the depth of the root ball — shallow is better than deep! Make sure the sides of the hole are rough and uneven. In very hard soils, a rough edge to the hole may help new roots to grow out into the surrounding soil.

**3. If the tree is in a container,** gently remove the container from root ball — don't pull by the trunk. Loosen roots with finger tips and prune away damaged or circling roots.

**4. For balled and burlapped trees,** rest the root ball in the center of the hole, and reshape the hole so the tree will be straight and at the proper level. After adjusting the tree, pull the burlap and any other material away from the sides and top of the root ball. Carefully remove the burlap material from the hole.

**5. Loosen the soil near the trunk** to find the trunk flare. This is the area where the trunk gets wider as the first roots join the trunk. This point should be visible at the top of the root ball. If the trunk flare is not visible, remove soil from the top of the root ball until it is visible.

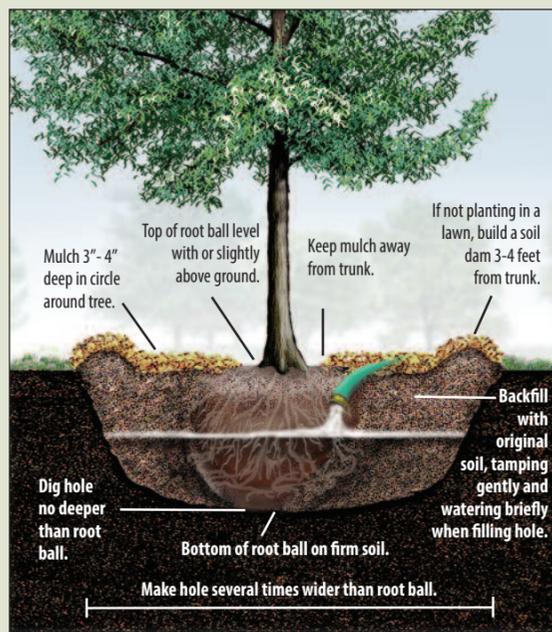
**6. Place the tree in the hole.** The bottom of the ball should rest on solid undisturbed soil. When finished, the trunk flare should be at or just above the soil surface. Planting too deep is the most common mistake, since soil above the trunk flare causes the bark to rot!

**7. Stand back and look at the tree** before putting the soil back into the hole. You can make careful adjustments at this time to the planting height and the direction the branches face without seriously harming the roots.

**8. Gently backfill with the original soil** removed earlier. Do not add fertilizer, compost or other material. Use one-third of the soil at a time. Break up dirt clods and remove any grass, weeds or rocks. Lightly pack the soil with the shovel handle to remove air pockets. Do not stamp on or compress soil heavily. The best soil for root growth has spaces for both air and water, but not large air pockets, which causes problems. Water briefly. Refill and pack again until soil is even with top of root ball. The trunk flare should be slightly above the soil. Water thoroughly.

**9. If your tree is not planted in a lawn,** construct a small earthen dam or berm, less than 4 inches tall, with excess soil just outside of the root ball zone to help retain water. This will help hold water until it soaks into the soil, rather than letting it run off across the

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surface. The berm is temporary while your tree becomes established and, in most cases should be removed two years after planting.

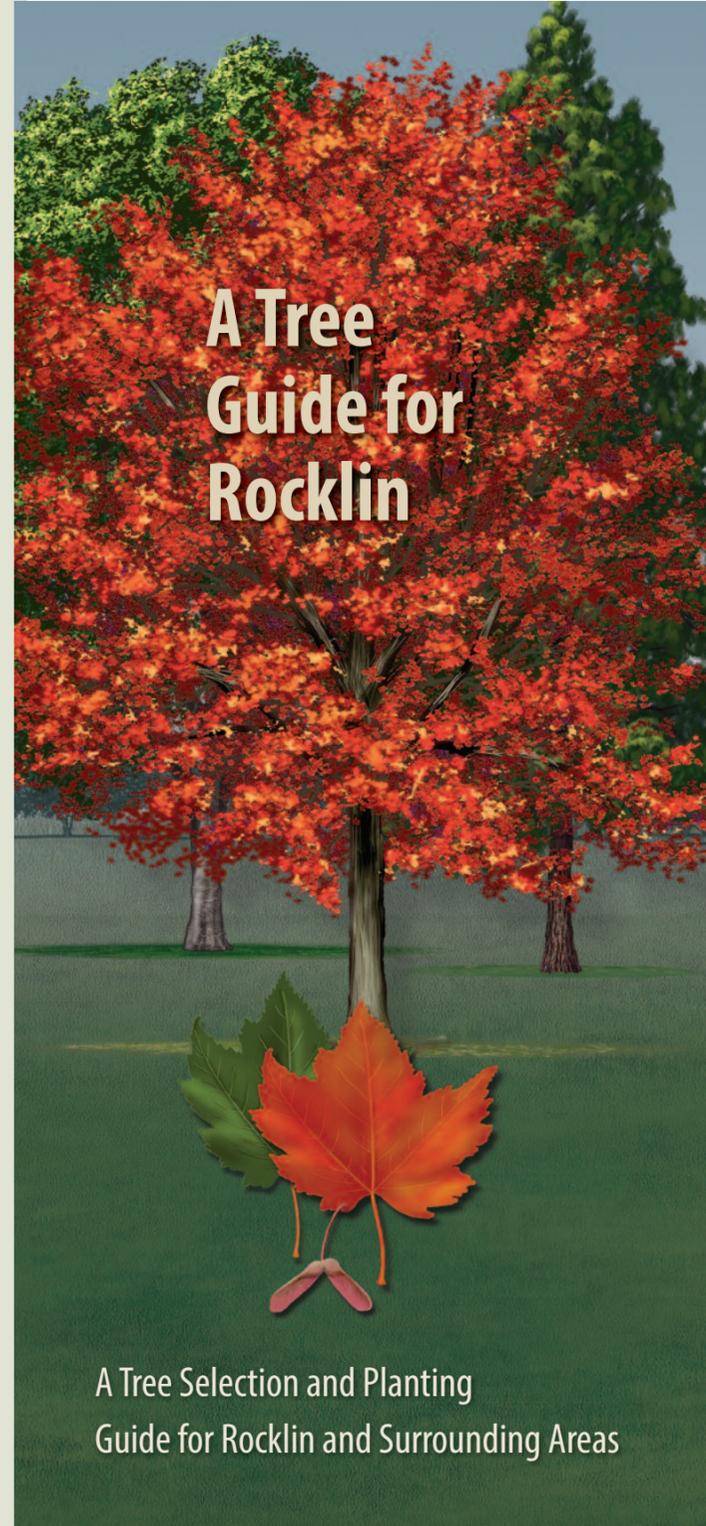
**10. Cover the entire loosened area** of soil with 3 to 4 inches of mulch (chipped wood or bark, compost, or dry leaves). Mulch will slow water loss, reduce competition from weeds and grasses, will moderate soil temperature and provide a small amount of nutrients. Keep mulch away from trunk of tree to prevent disease.

### 11. Staking Your Tree (Optional)

Stake only if tree stability is a problem. Staking is a temporary measure to allow the trunk to develop strength — remove as soon as possible. The sooner the stakes and ties are removed the stronger your tree will be. If staked, typically this can be 1-2 years and no longer than three. Reddy stakes are the easiest to use and are available from your local nursery.

A City of Rocklin and Pacific Gas and Electric Company partnership publication.

The National Arbor Day Foundation has designated Pacific Gas and Electric Company a TreeLine USA utility — an award granted for their commitment to the urban forest.



## A Tree Selection and Planting Guide for Rocklin and Surrounding Areas



We are fortunate to live in Rocklin, where we boast a rich urban forest and a population dedicated to improving both the community and the environment. It benefits us all to keep our urban forest thriving for future generations.

The City of Rocklin is committed to inspiring people to plant and care for trees, and to promoting environmental awareness and stewardship in our community. Not only does a healthy urban forest provide cooling shade, it also reduces pollution, provides wildlife habitat, increases property values, and brings people together. You can make a positive impact in our community by planting trees suitable to our local environment, planting them safely and in the 'right place' to ensure their positive contribution. Visit [www.rocklin.ca.us](http://www.rocklin.ca.us) to learn more about our programs and how to get involved.

To help you get started, the City of Rocklin in partnership with Pacific Gas and Electric Company has created this tree selection and planting guide. The trees on this list were selected for their exceptional performance in the unique climate, soil, and water conditions of Rocklin. Refer to the planting guide and utility message from PG&E to help you appropriately place and plant your tree. By selecting the right tree for your location, you will enjoy shade, natural beauty, and energy savings for decades.

### Power Wise Tree Planting Tips from PG&E

To ensure safe and reliable electric service, plant the "right tree in the right place" to avoid future conflicts between trees and power lines:

- Plant trees that grow no taller than 25 feet at maturity near high-voltage distribution lines.
- Plant only low-growing shrubs near or underneath high-voltage transmission lines.
- Avoid planting at the base of power poles and in proximity to pad-mounted transformers.

### Safety Concerns

For your safety, keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from high-voltage power lines. Only qualified line-clearance workers are allowed to prune or remove a tree that is within 10 feet of high-voltage power lines. If there is any question, call PG&E (800-743-5000) for an inspection of your tree and power line situation.



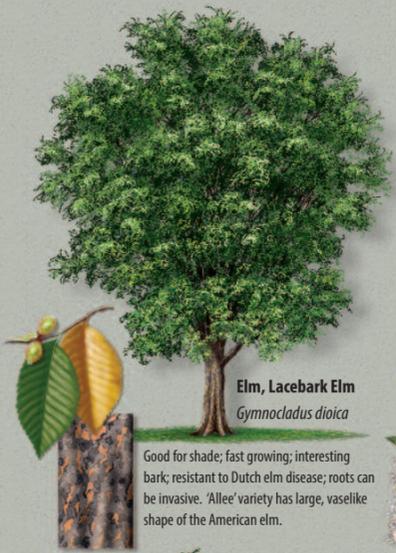
## Recommended Trees for Rocklin

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Tree Type	Height	Spread	Growth Rate	Water Use	Lawn	Utility*	Comments
SMALL	Buckeye, California	<i>Aesculus californica</i>	Deciduous	25'	30'	moderate	very low	yes	yes	Rocklin native; attractive spring flowers; drought tolerant; defoliates in summer; best in natural areas; large seeds a problem in lawns, on sidewalks.
	Crabapple, Hybrid	<i>Malus x</i>	Deciduous	25'	20'	moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Showy spring flowers; 'Robinson' & 'Prairie Fire' reportedly disease resistant w/ smaller, less messy fruit. Needs good drainage. Not for hot dry sites.
	Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia hybrids</i>	Deciduous	20-30'	15-25'	moderate	low to moderate	yes	yes	Showy summer flowers in a variety of colors; attractive bark and multi-trunk form. Benefits from occasional deep watering in summer.
	Fringe Tree, Chinese	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	Deciduous	25-30'	15-20'	slow-moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Showy white spring flowers; slow growing. Fruit may attract birds. Not much local experience with this tree.
	Magnolia, Saucer	<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>	Deciduous	25'	35'	moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Showy, bright pink, tulip-shaped flowers. Not tolerant of dry, alkaline, or poorly-drained soil. Large pruning wounds do not close well.
MEDIUM	Maple, Japanese	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Deciduous	25'	20'	slow-moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Spring & fall color; winter interest; resistant to oak root fungus. Best in filtered shade — avoid direct sun exposure; prefers moist, well drained soil.
	Plum, Purple Leaf	<i>Prunus cerasifera 'Newport'</i>	Deciduous	25'	20'	moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Attractive purplish foliage; spring flowers; small plums. Susceptible to pests. Plant only the smaller 'Newport' or 'Thundercloud' varieties near power lines.
	Redbud, Eastern	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Deciduous	25'	20'	moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Striking pink spring flowers. Varieties <i>mexicana</i> and <i>texasensis</i> more heat/drought tolerant. More tree-like than Western Redbud. Intolerant of waterlogged soils.
	Bay Laurel	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Evergreen	12-40'	30'	slow	low	yes	no	Dense, dark green evergreen; attractive form; prefers good drainage, though somewhat tolerant of waterlogged soils.
	Cypress, Arizona	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	Evergreen	50'	25'	fast	very low	yes	no	Attractive pale blue-green foliage; good screen or accent; needs well drained soils; fast growing; branches susceptible to wind breakage; flammable.
	Elm, Lacebark	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> varieties	Deciduous	50'	30'	moderate to fast	moderate	yes	no	Good for shade; fast growing; interesting bark; resistant to Dutch elm disease; roots can be invasive. 'Alle' variety has large, vase-like shape of the American elm.
	Goldenrain Tree	<i>Koeleruteria paniculata</i>	Deciduous	20-35'	25-40'	moderate to fast	moderate	yes	no	Showy yellow flower clusters in early summer; ornamental seed pods attractive in late summer, drop through fall and winter. Self-seeds readily.
	Magnolia, Southern	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Evergreen	65'	35'	moderate	moderate	yes	no	Broadleaved evergreen with large white flowers and large shiny leaves. Susceptible to root damage. Mature sizes differ with varieties.
	Maple, Trident	<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Deciduous	25-35'	20-30'	slow-moderate	moderate	yes	no	Highly regarded; showy yellow spring flowers; fall color; interesting bark. Good maple for smaller area. Can be pruned to single stem.
	Oak, Blue	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	Deciduous	25-35'	20-30'	slow-moderate	very low to none	yes	no	Rocklin native; slow growing; highly drought tolerant; acorn drop. Can be grown directly from local seed.
LARGE	Willow, Desert	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Deciduous	15-30'	10-20'	moderate	very low	yes	no	Charming, showy pink summer flowers. Prune to establish good structure. Early growth is rapid. Needs good drainage. Try in shallow dry soils.
	Cedar, Deodar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Evergreen	65'+	40'	moderate to fast	moderate	yes	no	Striking dark green evergreen from the Himalayas. Needs a large space. Generally performs well with adequate room.
	Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Deciduous	50-65'	20-30'	slow-moderate	moderate	yes	no	Fall color; tolerates harsh urban environment. Use only male fruitless varieties. Requires good drainage, occasional deep watering; resistant to breakage.
	Gum, Black/Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Deciduous	30-50'	35'	slow-moderate	moderate	yes	no	Shade tree with great fall color; tolerant of waterlogged soil. Avoid shallow, dry soils. Horizontal branching structure. Male trees don't fruit.
	Hackberry, European	<i>Celtis australis</i>	Deciduous	65-75'	30-40'	moderate	low to moderate	yes	no	Good for shade; occasional summer water required. Less vulnerable to Asian woolly hackberry aphid which results in sticky sap dripping from trees.
	Maple, Red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Deciduous	60'	40'	moderate to fast	high	yes	no	Striking fall color; winter interest; shade tree. Use only non-grafted varieties. Requires pruning; develops surface roots. Tolerates waterlogged soil.
	Oak, Interior Live	<i>Quercus wislizenii</i>	Evergreen	70-80'	35'	slow-moderate	low to very low	yes	no	Rocklin native evergreen; good for shade; fast growing; not for turf areas. Can be grown directly from local seed.
	Oak, Valley	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	Deciduous	75-100'	35'	moderate	low to very low	yes	no	Rocklin native; good for shade; fast growing in moist sites. Individuals vary in amount of litter they drop. Can be grown directly from local seed.
	Pine, Canary island	<i>Pinus canariensis</i>	Evergreen	65-75'	25-35'	moderate to fast	low to moderate	yes	no	Fast growing evergreen shade tree; narrow pyramid shape when young, eventually forms a round crown. Needles killed at 20°F; tree at 10°F.

\* Recommended near power lines

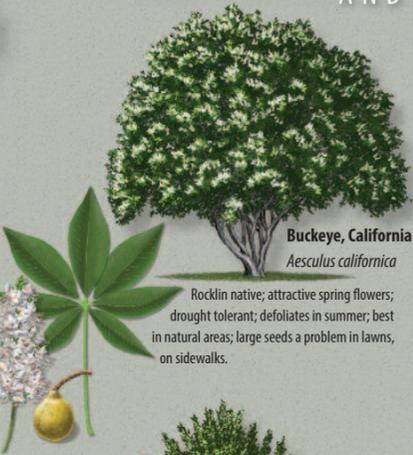
# Recommended Trees for Rocklin

AND SURROUNDING AREAS



**Elm, Lacebark Elm**  
*Gymnocladus dioica*

Good for shade; fast growing; interesting bark; resistant to Dutch elm disease; roots can be invasive. 'Allee' variety has large, vase-like shape of the American elm.



**Buckeye, California**  
*Aesculus californica*

Rocklin native; attractive spring flowers; drought tolerant; defoliates in summer; best in natural areas; large seeds a problem in lawns, on sidewalks.



**Canary Island Pine**  
*Pinus canariensis*

Fast growing evergreen shade tree; narrow pyramid shape when young, eventually forms a round crown. Needles killed at 20°F, tree at 10°F.



**Cypress, Arizona**  
*Cupressus arizonica*

Attractive pale blue-green color; good screen or accent; needs well drained soils; fast growing; branches susceptible to wind breakage; flammable.



**Cedar, Deodar** *Cedrus deodara*

Dark green evergreen with striking form. Needs large space. Generally performs well with adequate room. Native to the Himalayas.



**Blue Oak**  
*Quercus douglasii*

Rocklin native; slow growing; highly drought tolerant; acorn drop. Can be grown directly from local seed.



**Bay Laurel**  
*Laurus nobilis*

Dark green evergreen; dense, attractive form; prefers good drainage, though somewhat tolerant of waterlogged soils.



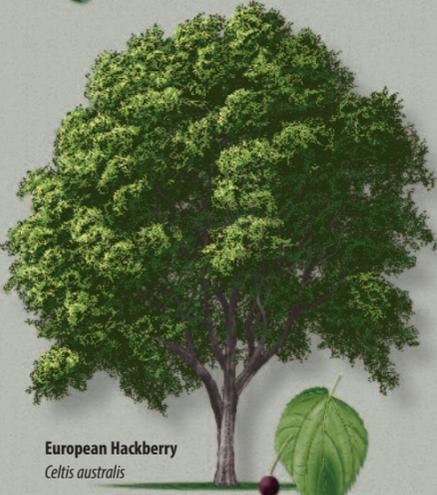
**Plum, Purple Leaf**  
*Prunus cerasifera* 'Newport'

Attractive purplish foliage; spring flowers; small plums. Susceptible to pests. Plant only the smaller 'Newport' or 'Thundercloud' varieties near power lines.



**Willow, Desert**  
*Chilopsis linearis*

Showy, pink trumpet-shaped summer flowers. Prune to establish good structure. Early growth is rapid. Needs good drainage. Try in shallow dry soils.



**European Hackberry**  
*Celtis australis*

Good for shade; occasional summer water required. Less vulnerable to Asian woolly hackberry aphid which results in sticky sap dripping from trees.



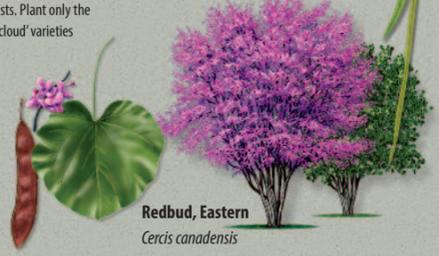
**Magnolia, Saucer**  
*Magnolia x soulangiana*

Showy, bright pink, tulip-shaped flowers. Not tolerant of dry, alkaline, or poorly-drained soils. Large pruning wounds do not close well.



**Valley Oak**  
*Quercus lobata*

Rocklin native; good for shade; fast growing in moist sites. Individuals vary in amount of litter they drop. Can be grown directly from local seed.



**Redbud, Eastern**  
*Cercis canadensis*

Striking pink spring flowers. Varieties *mexicana* and *texensis* are more heat and drought tolerant. More tree-like than Western Redbud. Intolerant of waterlogged soils.



**Trident Maple**  
*Acer buergerianum*

Highly regarded; showy yellow spring flowers; fall color; interesting bark. Good maple for smaller area. Can be pruned to single stem.



**Crape Myrtle**  
*Lagerstroemia* hybrids

Showy summer flowers in a variety of colors; attractive bark and multi-trunk form. Benefits from occasional deep watering in summer.



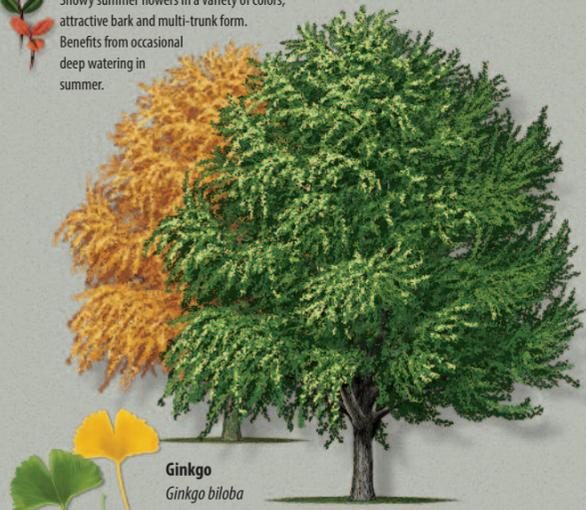
**Magnolia, Southern**  
*Magnolia grandiflora*

Broadleaved evergreen with large white flowers and large shiny leaves. Susceptible to root damage. Mature sizes differ with varieties.



**Maple, Japanese** *Acer palmatum*

Charming specimen tree with spring, fall and winter interest; resistant to oak root fungus. Best in filtered shade — avoid direct sun exposure; prefers moist, well drained soil.



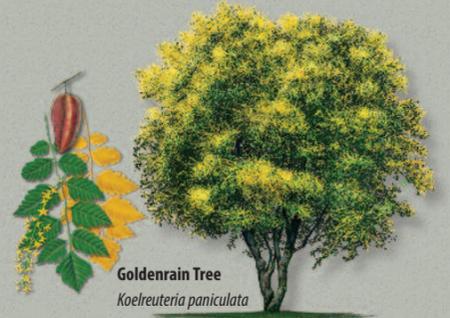
**Ginkgo**  
*Ginkgo biloba*

Fall color; tolerates harsh urban environment. Use only male fruitless varieties. Requires good drainage, occasional deep watering; resistant to breakage.



**Crabapple, Hybrid**  
*Malus* x

Showy spring flowers; 'Robinson' and 'Prairie Fire' reportedly disease resistant with smaller, less messy fruit. Needs good drainage. Not for hot, dry sites.



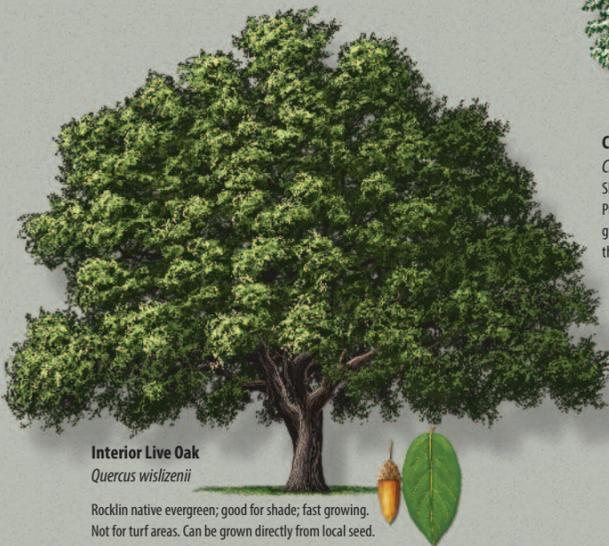
**Goldenrain Tree**  
*Koeleruteria paniculata*

Showy yellow flower clusters in early summer; ornamental seed pods attractive in late summer, drop through fall and winter. Self-seeds readily.



**Gum, Black**  
*Nyssa sylvatica*

Medium to large shade tree with great fall color; tolerant of waterlogged soil. Avoid shallow, dry soils. Horizontal branching structure. Male trees don't fruit.



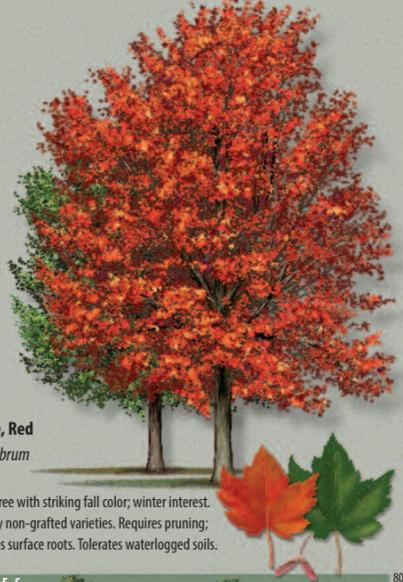
**Interior Live Oak**  
*Quercus wislizenii*

Rocklin native evergreen; good for shade; fast growing. Not for turf areas. Can be grown directly from local seed.



**Chinese Fringe Tree**  
*Chionanthus retusus*

Showy white spring flowers. Purple fruit may attract birds; slow growing. Not much local experience with this tree.

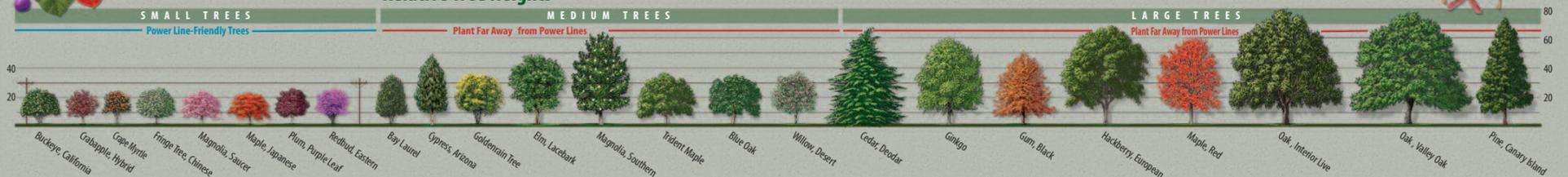


**Maple, Red**  
*Acer rubrum*

Shade tree with striking fall color; winter interest. Use only non-grafted varieties. Requires pruning; develops surface roots. Tolerates waterlogged soils.



## Relative Tree Heights



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