

PLANT DESCRIPTIONS

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS:

Red Twig Dogwood: Many –stemmed shrub that grows in dense clumps and ranges 6 to 15 feet tall. Distinctive bright red stems. Prefers moist, rich soils in either sun or shade. It is a common Idaho native, and thrives in our coldest areas. This dogwood bears clusters of small white flowers in spring. Provides nesting sites for birds and the small whitish berries are eaten by birds. The foliage is brilliant red in the fall.

Preston Lilac: Dense vigorous fast growing shrub to 8 feet tall. Flowers are light purple to white. This species blooms later than the common lilac. Does not sucker. Less drought tolerant than the common lilac. Performs well in drought. Provides nesting for song birds. Plant in full sun light.

Snowberry: This Idaho native shrub grows in a variety of soil types and environmental conditions. It usually grows 3 to 4 feet high but can reach 6 feet. It will form a dense thicket and it is also fire resistant. It will provide cover and food for grouse, bluebirds, turkeys, and kingbirds. White-tail deer will browse these branches.

Serviceberry: This Idaho native will grow to about 20 feet. It has drooping white or pinkish flowers that are replaced with purple edible fruits. The fall foliage color is red. The plants are extremely cold-hardy and drought resistant once established. Ideal for the exterior row of windbreak. The fruit will feed birds, bears, and chipmunks. The foliage is browsed by deer, elk, and moose.

Purple Lilac: This flowering shrub has a moderate growth rate and will reach 10 to 15 feet high. Its dense growth and adaptability to a wide range of environments is a benefit to your outer row on a windbreak. The common lilac provides cover and nesting sites for a wide range of birds.

BAREROOT DECIDUOUS TREES:

Amur Maple: This is a 15 to 20 feet tall tree that likes full sun to partial shade. It also prefers moist, well-drained soils and is moderately drought tolerant. The outstanding bright reddish fall colors re influenced by soil conditions. This tree will be browsed by deer and rabbits but will also provide fair cover for songbirds.

Chokecherry: This is a shrubby tree that will grow up to 20 feet and is drought and heat tolerant. It is important for its wildlife food and coverage. The fruit is commonly used in jelly making. It will sucker. Used in the outer row of windbreaks.

Black Hawthorn: This is a slow- growing large shrub reaching about 20 feet. It also forms a dense, thorny thicket that is good for cover and nesting sites. Good in the outer row of windbreaks. It is browsed heavily when young, but much less when grown larger. The fruit provides food for birds, grouse, and small animals.

Aspen: This is a fast growing tree and up to 50 feet high. The limbs and trunks are smooth and white to light grey in color. It is indifferent to the soil type as long as the soil is moist. Leaves turn yellow/golden in the fall. A valuable browse species for big game animals.

Poplar—Broadleaf: Cotton less, fast growing tree (up to 40 to 60 feet). Does well in various soils and moisture conditions. Tough and extremely hardy once established. Controlling the weed growth will help the tree to grow much more quickly. Good roosting and nesting tree for hawks and owls and many other species of birds.

Poplar—Narrow leaf: Very hardy and will grow up to 50 feet. It likes moist conditions and does well at high elevations. The willow-like leaves have a golden yellow fall color.

POTTED DECIDUOUS SHRUB AND TREES:

Siberian Pea: It is a dense shrub with thick foliage. Its mature height is 12 to 15 feet. It makes a good snow and sound barrier. Siberian Pea is probably the most frost/drought/alkaline-soil resistant shrub suited to Idaho growing conditions. The yellow flowers are a favorite to hummingbirds. Some birds also eat the peas that form later.

Yellow Mountain Willow: This tree will grow 8 to 12 feet tall. It has yellowish branches with long narrow green leaves. Medium to high water requirements and will need full sun to partial shade.

Gold Willow: It is a small to medium tree (20 to 40 feet) with a dense round top and dark green leaves. Tolerant of very cold weather, and used in the interior rows for windbreaks. Bright yellow foliage in the fall and reddish orange bark in winter. Provides nesting and roosting habitat for birds.

CONIFEROUS TREES:

Blue Spruce: This is a moderately growing tree but reaches heights of 50 to 60 feet. Makes excellent windbreak, traps and holds snow well. It also provides winter cover for upland game birds and small animals. This tree prefers moist areas but is the most drought tolerant of the spruces.