The Colorado State Forest Service tree program enables farmers, ranchers and rural landowners to obtain trees at nominal cost. The program’s aim is to encourage landowners to plant new forests; establish effective windbreaks to reduce erosion, protect homes, cropland, livestock and highways; and enhance wildlife habitat. Our trees and shrubs are grown for their conservation benefits only. Ornamental qualities such as color, degree of flowering, fruit production and others are not guaranteed.

To participate, landowners must have at least two acres of land and must agree not to use the trees for ornamental or landscaping purposes. These trees and shrubs cannot be resold as living plants (the roots must be severed). Contact your local nursery for ornamental needs.

For information on ordering trees and application forms, contact your local soil conservation district, your local Extension county office, your district Colorado State Forest Service office (page vi), or the Colorado State Forest Service nursery.

Many thanks to Dennis Will, Dan Wand, Greg Morgenson, Vince Urbina, Randy Moench and Mike Way for the fine photographs in this publication.

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Trees for Conservation
a buyer’s guide

a catalog of conservation tree and shrub species grown
at the Colorado State Forest Service Nursery

Revised October 2008
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10/08
**Caragana**  
*Caragana arborescens*

- **Growth Form:** irregular or hedgelike  
- **Crown Density:** dense  
- **Size:** 8-12 feet high  
  - 5-8 foot spread  
- **Drought Resistance:** excellent  
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
- **Growth Rate:** rapid  
- **Life Span:** moderate  
- **Elevational Range:** to 9,500 feet  
- **Soil Conditions:** good salt and alkaline tolerance  
- **Possible Insect Problems:** aphids and grasshoppers  
- **Possible Disease Problems:** very resistant  
- **Wildlife Value:** good: songbirds  
- **Seasonal Color:** yellow spring flowers  
- **Miscellany:** does well in poor soils

---

**Cotoneaster**  
*Cotoneaster acutifolia*

- **Growth Form:** ovoid to irregular  
- **Crown Density:** dense  
- **Size:** 6-8 feet high  
  - 3-5 foot spread  
- **Drought Resistance:** very good  
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
- **Growth Rate:** rapid  
- **Life Span:** moderate  
- **Elevational Range:** to 9,500 feet  
- **Soil Conditions:** good alkaline tolerance  
- **Possible Insect Problems:** oyster shell scale  
- **Possible Disease Problems:** fireblight; fairly resistant  
- **Wildlife Value:** high: song and game birds  
- **Seasonal Color:** brilliant red-orange foliage  
- **Miscellany:** can be clipped to a hedge
**Chokecherry**

*Prunus virginiana*

- **Growth Form:** ovoid to irregular
- **Crown Density:** moderate
- **Size:** 6-20 feet high
  - 6-20 foot spread
- **Drought Resistance:** good
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 9,000 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** good alkaline tolerance
- **Possible Insect Problems:** borers, pear-slug sawfly
- **Possible Disease Problems:** black knot, fireblight
- **Wildlife Value:** high: song and ground birds; good: small mammals, and browse for deer
- **Seasonal Color:** golden yellow to orange fall foliage
- **Miscellany:** delicious edible fruit for jellies and pies; native; can be poisonous to livestock

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**Lilac**

*Syringa spp.*

- **Growth Form:** round to irregular
- **Crown Density:** dense
- **Size:** 8-12 feet high
  - 8-12 foot spread
- **Drought Resistance:** very good
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 8,000 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** good alkaline tolerance
- **Possible Insect Problems:** lilac borer, leaf miners, oyster shell scale
- **Possible Disease Problems:** lilac leaf blotch, powdery mildew, some leaf spots
- **Wildlife Value:** moderately high: songbirds; cover value
- **Seasonal Color:** fragrant purple or white spring flowers
- **Miscellany:** develops into a dense barrier
Native plum
Prunus americana

Growth Form: irregular
Crown Density: open
Size: to 8 feet high
to 8 foot spread
Drought Resistance: good
Cold Hardiness: excellent
Growth Rate: rapid
Life Span: moderate
Elevational Range: to 8,000 feet
Soil Conditions: good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: pear-slug sawfly
Possible Disease Problems: fireblight, powdery mildew
Wildlife Value: excellent: hoofed browsers; nesting cover and food value
Seasonal Color: large white flowers in May
Miscellany: native; delicious edible fruit for jellies and canning; forms a thicket

Sumac (skunkbush)
Rhus trilobata

Growth Form: irregular
Crown Density: dense
Size: to 4 feet high
to 8 foot spread
Drought Resistance: excellent
Cold Hardiness: excellent
Growth Rate: rapid to moderate
Life Span: moderate
Elevational Range: to 8,000 feet
Soil Conditions: excellent alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: fairly resistant
Possible Disease Problems: Fusarium wilt
Wildlife Value: excellent: many birds
Seasonal Color: red-orange fall foliage
Miscellany: native; berries have slight lemon taste when rolled under tongue
Sand cherry
Prunus besseyi

Growth Form: spreading
Crown Density: moderate
Size: 3 feet high
4 foot spread
Drought Resistance: good
Cold Hardiness: good
Growth Rate: rapid
Life Span: short
Elevational Range: to 7,500 feet
Soil Conditions: best on sandy to loamy soils
Possible Insect Problems: pear slug; fall web worm
Possible Disease Problems: powdery mildew
Wildlife Value: excellent; browse and food value
Seasonal Color: pink flowers
Miscellany: native; edible fruit

Nanking cherry
Prunus tomentosa

Growth Form: round to irregular
Crown Density: moderate
Size: to 8 feet high
8 foot spread
Drought Resistance: good
Cold Hardiness: excellent
Growth Rate: rapid
Life Span: moderate
Elevational Range: to 8,000 feet
Soil Conditions: good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: tent caterpillars, bark beetles
Possible Disease Problems: shot-hole leaf spot, black knot
Wildlife Value: high; song and game birds
Seasonal Color: white flowers in spring
Miscellany: delicious edible fruit for jellies; blooms early
**European sage**
*Artemisia abrotanum*

- **Growth Form:** round to irregular
- **Crown Density:** open
- **Size:** to 8 feet high, to 8 foot spread
- **Drought Resistance:** very good
- **Cold Hardiness:** good
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 6,000 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** good alkaline tolerance
- **Possible Insect Problems:** fairly resistant
- **Possible Disease Problems:** fairly resistant
- **Wildlife Value:** fair; cover and browse value

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**Wild rose**
*Rosa spp.*

- **Growth Form:** irregular
- **Crown Density:** open
- **Size:** 4 feet high, spreading
- **Drought Resistance:** good
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 10,000 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** moist
- **Possible Insect Problems:** leaf cutter bees
- **Wildlife Value:** excellent: big game browse and food value; relished by grouse, turkey and pheasant
- **Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous
- **Miscellany:** native; showy flowers; suckers and spreads
Buffaloberry  
*Shepherdia argentea*

**Growth Form:** round to irregular  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:** 10 feet high; spreading  
**Drought Resistance:** good  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** moderate  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,500 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline  
**Possible Insect Problems:** unimportant  
**Possible Disease Problems:** unimportant  
**Wildlife Value:** good: food value; excellent: cover for small game and songbird nesting  
**Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous  
**Miscellany:** native; edible fruit for jellies; forms thickets

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Four-wing saltbush  
*Atriplex canascens*

**Growth Form:** round to irregular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 3 feet high  
5 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** good  
**Growth Rate:** moderate  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 8,500 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** excellent alkali and salt tolerance  
**Possible Insect Problems:** grasshoppers  
**Wildlife Value:** good: forage value  
**Seasonal Color:** mature seed makes fine contrast  
**Miscellany:** native
Golden currant
*Ribes aureum*

**Growth Form:** round to irregular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 7 feet high  
3 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** good  
**Cold Hardiness:** good  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 8,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** moist  
**Possible Insect Problems:** imported currant worm, oyster shell scale  
**Possible Disease Problems:** blister rust  
**Wildlife Value:** good: food and browse value; nesting cover  
**Seasonal Color:** red to orange fall color; showy yellow flowers  
**Miscellany:** native; edible fruit

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Serviceberry
*Amelanchier spp.*

**Growth Form:** ovoid to irregular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 6 feet high  
5 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** fair  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** moderate  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 9,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** moist  
**Possible Insect Problems:** pear slug  
**Possible Disease Problems:** leaf spots and rust  
**Wildlife Value:** excellent: big game browse; food value for upland game  
**Seasonal Color:** showy white flowers  
**Miscellany:** native; edible fruit; showy flowers
Mountain mahogany
*Cercocarpus montanus*

- **Growth Form:** irregular
- **Crown Density:** dense
- **Size:** 6 feet high
  - 5 foot spread
- **Drought Resistance:** excellent
- **Cold Hardiness:** good
- **Growth Rate:** moderate
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 9,000 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline; well-drained
- **Possible Insect Problems:** tent caterpillars
- **Possible Disease Problems:** unimportant
- **Wildlife Value:** high: big game browse; cover for small game birds and mammals
- **Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous
- **Miscellany:** native; seed showy in fall

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Red-osier dogwood
*Cornus serica*

- **Growth Form:** irregular
- **Crown Density:** open
- **Size:** to 8 feet high
  - to 6 foot spread
- **Drought Resistance:** fair
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 11,000 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** not suited for dense clays
- **Possible Insect Problems:** dogwood sawfly, polyphemus moth, oystershell scale
- **Possible Disease Problems:** cytospora canker
- **Wildlife Value:** excellent: grouse, pheasant, turkey, grosbeak, robin, cedar waxwing
- **Seasonal Color:** vivid red fall foliage and stems. Showy white flowers and berries
- **Miscellany:** for moist sites such as streamside riparian areas

*Dogwood close-up courtesy Natural Resources Conservation Service*
New Mexico forestiera (privet)
Forestiera neomexicana

Growth Form: irregular
Crown Density: dense
Size: 10 feet high
Drought Resistance: excellent
Cold Hardiness: good
Growth Rate: moderate
Life Span: long
Elevational Range: to 7,500 feet
Soil Conditions: moist; alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: unimportant
Possible Disease Problems: unimportant
Wildlife Value: good; fruit valuable to quail, songbirds;
                excellent: cover
Seasonal Color: not conspicuous
Miscellany: native; bluish-black fruit; yellow flowers

Snowberry
Symphoricarpos spp.

Growth Form: irregular
Crown Density: open
Size: 3 feet high
Drought Resistance: fair
Cold Hardiness: excellent
Growth Rate: moderate
Life Span: moderate
Elevational Range: to 9,500 feet
Soil Conditions: good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: aphids
Possible Disease Problems: leaf spot, anthracnose, rust,
                           powdery mildew
Wildlife Value: good: food and cover for turkey, grouse, and
                other small game
Seasonal Color: white fruit
Miscellany: native
Wax Currant
*Ribes cereum*

**Growth Form:** irregular
**Crown Density:** moderate
**Size:** 3 feet high
   3-5 foot spread
**Drought Resistance:** very good
**Cold Hardiness:** very good
**Growth Rate:** rapid
**Life Span:** moderate
**Elevational Range:** 4000-11000 feet
**Soil Conditions:** coarse and medium textured soils
**Possible Insect Problems:**
**Possible Disease Problems:** alternate host for white pine
   blister rust
**Wildlife Value:** high
**Seasonal Color:** attractive red fruit
**Miscellany:** native, edible fruit

Green ash
*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*

**Growth Form:** irregular to elliptical
**Crown Density:** moderate
**Size:** 35-75 feet high
   15-35 foot spread
**Drought Resistance:** excellent
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent
**Growth Rate:** rapid
**Life Span:** long
**Elevational Range:** to 6,000 feet
**Soil Conditions:** good alkaline tolerance
**Possible Insect Problems:** ash borer, oyster shell scale, ash sawfly
**Possible Disease Problems:** occasional powdery mildew
**Wildlife Value:** fair: game and songbirds
**Seasonal Color:** golden-yellow fall foliage
**Miscellany:** native; does best in sandy, loam soils
Siberian elm
Ulmus pumila

Growth Form: irregular
Crown Density: moderate
Size: to 40 feet high
30-40 foot spread
Drought Resistance: excellent
Cold Hardiness: excellent
Growth Rate: rapid
Life Span: moderate
Elevational Range: to 8,000 feet
Soil Conditions: tolerates alkaline well
Possible Insect Problems: elm leaf beetle
Possible Disease Problems: bacterial wetwood
Wildlife Value: moderate: song and game birds (seeds and buds)
Seasonal Color: not conspicuous
Miscellany: hardiest of all elms; can be weedy

Hybrid cottonwood (poplar)
Populus spp.

Growth Form: globular to irregular
Crown Density: moderate
Size: 75-100 feet high
50-75 foot spread
Drought Resistance: poor
Cold Hardiness: excellent
Growth Rate: rapid
Life Span: moderate
Elevational Range: to 6,500 feet
Possible Insect Problems: leaf miners, fall webworm, poplar borers, oyster shell scale
Possible Disease Problems: cytospora canker; bacterial wetwood, Marssonina leaf blight
Wildlife Value: fair: nesting and roosting cover
Miscellany: “Norway” male clone, will produce male flowers. No guarantee on degree of “cotton” production
Native willow mix  
*Salix spp.*

**Growth Form:** irregular  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:** to 12 feet high; spreading  
**Drought Resistance:** poor  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 9,500 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** moist  
**Possible Insect Problems:** willow and poplar borers; sawfly galls  
**Possible Disease Problems:** leaf rust  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food and cover for birds, browse value for deer, elk and moose  
**Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous  
**Miscellany:** a mix of whiplash (Pacific), strapleaf, and coyote willows, native, suckers and spreads, species mix may vary from year to year

Golden willow  
*Salix alba vitellina*

**Growth Form:** globular to spreading  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** to 35 feet high  
**Drought Resistance:** poor  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 8,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline and salts well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** aphids  
**Possible Disease Problems:** cytospora canker; bacterial wetwood  
**Wildlife Value:** moderate: song and game birds; food value for buds and twigs  
**Seasonal Color:** orange-yellow bark on young growth in winter  
**Miscellany:** requires moist soil
Honeylocust
*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*

**Growth Form:** irregular, spreading  
**Crown Density:** open, fine-textured  
**Size:** 35-75 feet high  
15-50 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** very good  
**Cold Hardiness:** very good  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate to long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,500 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** pod gall midge; scale insects  
**Possible Disease Problems:** thyroneectria canker; sunscald; cytospora canker  
**Wildlife Value:** low  
**Miscellany:** usually thornless

Hackberry
*Celtis occidentalis*

**Growth Form:** globular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 40-60 feet high  
40-60 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** very good  
**Cold Hardiness:** very good  
**Growth Rate:** rapid to moderate  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline well; moderately salt tolerant  
**Possible Insect Problems:** leaf gall psyllids; spiny elm caterpillar; nipple gall always present  
**Possible Disease Problems:** hackberry witches’ broom  
**Wildlife Value:** high: songbirds and small mammals  
**Seasonal Color:** pale lemon-yellow foliage in fall  
**Miscellany:** native; wood of commercial value
Lombardy poplar
*Populus nigra 'Italica'*

**Growth Form:** columnar to ovoid  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** to 40 feet high  
10-15 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** poor  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** short  
**Elevational Range:** to 8,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** fall webworm  
**Possible Disease Problems:** bacterial wetwood; cytospora canker  
**Wildlife Value:** low  
**Miscellany:** best for temporary protection only

---

Bur oak  
*Quercus macrocarpa*

**Growth Form:** globular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** to 75 feet high  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** very long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** scales, gall wasps  
**Wildlife Value:** excellent: acorn food value for birds and mammals  
**Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous  
**Miscellany:** can live more than 200 years
Coyote willow
*Salix exigua*

- **Growth Form:** irregular
- **Crown Density:** dense
- **Size:** to 10 feet high; spreading
- **Drought Resistance:** poor
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** short
- **Elevational Range:** to 9,500 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** moist
- **Possible Insect Problems:** willow and poplar borers; sawfly galls
- **Possible Disease Problems:** leaf rust
- **Wildlife Value:** high: food and cover for birds; browse value for deer, elk and moose
- **Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous
- **Miscellany:** native; suckers and spreads

Peachleaf willow
*Salix amygdaloides*

- **Growth Form:** irregular
- **Crown Density:** open
- **Size:** to 40 feet high
- **Drought Resistance:** poor
- **Cold Hardiness:** excellent
- **Growth Rate:** rapid
- **Life Span:** moderate
- **Elevational range:** to 9,500 feet
- **Soil Conditions:** moist
- **Possible Insect Problems:** willow and poplar borers
- **Possible Disease Problems:** cytospora canker, leaf rust
- **Wildlife Value:** high: food and cover for birds, browse value for deer, elk & moose
- **Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous
- **Miscellany:** native
Prairie Sky Cottonwood
*Populus x canadensis ‘Prairie Sky’*

**Growth Form:** columnar  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 50 feet high  
10 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** low  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 8,000  
**Soil Conditions:** Adapted to coarse and medium textured soils  
**Possible Insect Problems:** Cottonwood leaf beetle  
**Possible Disease Problems:** Good canker resistance  
**Wildlife Value:** low  
**Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous  
**Miscellany:** usually cottonless

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Gambel Oak
*Quercus gambelii*

**Growth Form:** irregular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 4 to 15 feet high  
Spread variable  
**Drought Resistance:** Low  
**Cold Hardiness:** Good  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Life Span:** Long  
**Elevational Range:** 4100 to 9000  
**Soil Conditions:** Adapted to coarse and medium textured soils  
**Possible Insect Problems:** gall wasps  
**Possible Disease Problems:** anthracnose  
**Wildlife Value:** High  
**Seasonal Color:** not conspicuous  
**Miscellany:** native though can be regarded as weedy in some areas
Aspen
*Populus tremuloides*

**Growth Form:** ovoid to columnar  
**Crown Density:** open  
**Size:** 35-50 feet high  
20-35 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** poor  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 11,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** poplar borer, scale, tent caterpillar, twig gall fly  
**Possible Disease Problems:** cytospora canker, leaf spot  
**Wildlife Value:** high: buds and catkins for food value for grouse and browsers  
**Seasonal Color:** yellow fall color  
**Miscellany:** native

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Lanceleaf Cottonwood
*Populus x acuminata*

**Growth Form:** irregular  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 40 to 60 feet high  
25 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** low  
**Cold Hardiness:** good  
**Growth Rate:** rapid  
**Life Span:** moderate  
**Elevational Range:** 4000 to 8500  
**Soil Conditions:** adapted to coarse soils  
**Possible Insect Problems:** borers  
**Possible Disease Problems:** cankers  
**Wildlife Value:** Low  
**Seasonal Color:** Can have attractive yellow leaves in fall  
**Miscellany:** male flowers
Colorado blue spruce
*Picea pungens*

**Growth Form:** conical  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:** 60-100 feet high  
15-35 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** fair  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 9,500 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** fair alkaline tolerance  
**Possible Insect Problems:** pine needle scale, tussock moth, terminal weevil, gall aphids  
**Possible Disease Problems:** Valsa canker, spruce witches’ broom  
**Wildlife Value:** high: song and ground birds and grouse; hoofed and small browsers  
**Seasonal Color:** bluish evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native; Colorado’s state tree; high ornamental value

Austrian pine
*Pinus nigra*

**Growth Form:** pyramidal  
**Crown Density:** open  
**Size:** to 40 feet high  
30 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** fair  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** pine tip moth  
**Possible Disease Problems:** fairly resistant  
**Wildlife Value:** high: song and ground birds, food value from seeds  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** forms a good screen
Douglas-fir

*Pseudotsuga menziesii*

**Growth Form:** conical to pyramidal  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:**  70-100 feet high  
20-35 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** good  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** 6,000 to 9,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** spruce budworm  
**Possible Disease Problems:** shoestring root rot; Douglas-fir mistletoe, bacterial gall  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value for grouse, songbirds and small mammals; browse for deer and elk  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native

Engelmann spruce

*Picea engelmannii*

**Growth Form:** conical to spirelike  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:**  70-90 feet high  
15-30 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** very good  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** 8,000 to 11,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** spruce bark beetle, spruce budworm  
**Possible Disease Problems:** root rot, spruce broom rust  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value for grouse and songbirds; browse for deer and elk  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native; intolerant of direct sun, requires shade
**Eastern redcedar**
*Juniperus virginiana*

**Growth Form:** pyramidal to irregular  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:** 15-20 feet high  
10-20 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,500 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline and salts well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** spider mites  
**Possible Disease Problems:** rust  
**Wildlife Value:** high: song and game birds; hoofed browsers, good cover  
**Seasonal Color:** rusty red  
**Miscellany:** very adaptable to site conditions

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**Lodgepole pine**
*Pinus contorta*

**Growth Form:** conical to spirelike  
**Crown Density:** open  
**Size:** 35-70 feet high  
15-30 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** 6,000 to 11,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** mountain pine beetle  
**Possible Disease Problems:** mistletoe, western gall rust  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value from seeds for upland game and songbirds  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native; good conifer for high altitude windbreaks
**Pinon pine**  
*Pinus edulis*

**Growth Form:** rounded to irregular  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:** 15-30 feet high  
15-30 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,500 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** pinon pitch borer, Ips, spindle gall midge  
**Possible Disease Problems:** black stain root disease, mistletoe  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value from seeds for upland game and songbirds  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native

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**Ponderosa pine**  
*Pinus ponderosa*

**Growth Form:** conical to ovoid  
**Crown Density:** moderately dense  
**Size:** 40-100 feet high  
15-60 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** rapid to moderate  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 9,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** sawflies, bark beetle, tip moth  
**Possible Disease Problems:** western gall rust; dwarf mistletoe, shoestring root rot  
**Wildlife Value:** high: song and ground birds, small mammals, browsers  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native; needs well-drained soils
Rocky Mountain juniper
*Juniperus scopulorum*

**Growth Form:** pyramidal to irregular
**Crown Density:** dense
**Size:** 15-50 feet high
  10-35 foot spread
**Drought Resistance:** excellent
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent
**Growth Rate:** slow
**Life Span:** long
**Elevational Range:** to 9,000 feet
**Soil Conditions:** excellent alkaline tolerance
**Possible Insect Problems:** spider mites, bark beetles
**Possible Disease Problems:** juniper broom rust, juniper gall rusts, juniper true mistletoe
**Wildlife Value:** high: song and ground birds, large browsing mammals
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen
**Miscellany:** native

Scotch pine
*Pinus sylvestris*

**Growth Form:** pyramidal to ovoid
**Crown Density:** open
**Size:** 40-65 feet high
  20-40 foot spread
**Drought Resistance:** very good
**Cold Hardiness:** very good
**Growth Rate:** rapid
**Life Span:** long
**Elevational Range:** to 7,000 feet
**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline
**Possible Insect Problems:** tip moths, ips beetles
**Possible Disease Problems:** fairly resistant
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value for upland game and song birds
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen
**Miscellany:** makes an excellent Christmas tree
**White fir**  
*Abies concolor*

**Growth Form:** conical  
**Crown Density:** dense  
**Size:** 60–100 feet high  
20–35 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** very good  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** 6,000 to 9,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** spruce budworm, Douglas-fir tussock moth  
**Possible Disease Problems:** needlecast, root rot  
**Wildlife Value:** moderate: food source and winter cover for grouse and songbirds  
**Seasonal Color:** bluish evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native

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**Bristlecone pine**  
*Pinus aristata*

**Growth Form:** irregular  
**Crown Density:** open  
**Size:** 20–40 feet high  
**Drought Resistance:** fair  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 11,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** bark beetles  
**Possible Disease Problems:** white pine blister rust  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value from seeds for upland game and songbirds  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native
Narrowleaf cottonwood
*Populus angustifolia*

**Growth Form:** ovoid to irregular

**Crown Density:** moderate

**Size:** to 50 feet high
to 30 foot spread

**Drought Resistance:** fair

**Cold Hardiness:** excellent

**Growth Rate:** rapid

**Life Span:** moderate

**Elevational Range:** 5,000 to 9,500 feet

**Soil Conditions:** tolerates alkaline well

**Possible Insect Problems:** blotchmine beetle

**Possible Disease Problems:** cytospora canker; bacterial wetwood

**Wildlife Value:** moderate: nesting and roosting cover; buds catkins and twigs for food value

**Seasonal Color:** yellow

**Miscellany:** native; very weak wood

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Fremont Cottonwood
*Populus fremontii*

**Growth Form:** spreading

**Crown Density:** moderate

**Size:** 50-90 feet high
35 foot spread

**Drought Resistance:** Medium

**Cold Hardiness:** Fair

**Growth Rate:** Rapid

**Life Span:** Moderate

**Elevational Range:** 4000 to 7000 feet

**Soil Conditions:** adapted to a variety of soil types

**Possible Insect Problems:** cottonwood leaf beetle

**Possible Disease Problems:** mistletoe

**Wildlife Value:** low

**Seasonal Color:** attractive yellow

**Miscellany:** native of Western Colorado, not cottonless
**Limber pine**  
*Pinus flexilis*

**Growth Form:** conical to ovoid  
**Crown Density:** open  
**Size:** to 35 feet high  
**Drought Resistance:** good  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** to 11,000 feet  
**Soil Conditions:** well-drained  
**Possible Insect Problems:** bark beetles  
**Possible Disease Problems:** mistletoe  
**Wildlife Value:** high: food value from seeds for upland game and songbirds  
**Seasonal Color:** evergreen  
**Miscellany:** native

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**Subalpine fir**  
*Abies lasiocarpa*

**Growth Form:** conical to spire-like  
**Crown Density:** moderate  
**Size:** 60-100 feet high  
10 to 20 foot spread  
**Drought Resistance:** poor  
**Cold Hardiness:** excellent  
**Growth Rate:** slow  
**Life Span:** long  
**Elevational Range:** 8,000 to 11,000 feet  
**Possible Insect Problems:** balsam bark beetle, western spruce budworm, fir engraver  
**Possible Disease Problems:** armillaria root disease, annosus root rot  
**Wildlife Value:** fair: grouse, nutcracker, sapsucker, deer, elk, moose  
**Seasonal Color:** distinctive black/purple cones  
**Miscellany:** native, not suited to lower elevations, requires shade

*Photos courtesy Forest Service Canada*