

Selected Trees and Shrubs for Northwest Kansas Landscapes

By Terry Mannell
Former County Extension Agent - Horticulture
Ellis County

The following plants are adaptable to Northwest Kansas though some will grow better in good soil conditions and when protected from winds and the hot sun of a southern or western exposure. Those that need to be protected for best growth by planting on a north or east side of a structure are noted with a (P). Most of these plants will grow well with a minimum amount of supplemental irrigation once established. Regular watering will be needed until the plants are well-rooted. This may take 2 or more years depending on the site and the type and size of plant. The plants that are good for low-water landscapes are indicated with a (L)

Large Deciduous Trees (over 45')

Black Walnut(L)
Bur Oak(L)
Chinkapin Oak(L)
Common Hackberry(L)
English Oak(L)
Green Ash(L)
Honeylocust(L) (cultivars as Shademaster)
Kentucky Coffeetree(L)
Northern Red Oak
Shumard Oak
White Ash (cultivars as Autumn Purple)

Medium Deciduous Trees (30-45')

Aristocrat Pear(L) (or other Callery Pear
cultivars except Bradford)
Canada Red Cherry
Goldenraintree(L)
Lacebark Elm(L)
Littleleaf Linden(P)
Osage Orange(L) (thornless & fruitless)
Sawtooth Oak(L)

Small Deciduous Trees (under 30')

Amur Maple(L)
Flowering Crabapple(L) (disease resistant)
Redbud(L)
Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn(L)
Washington Hawthorn(L)
Winter King Hawthorn(L)

Large Deciduous Shrubs (over 8')

Autumn Olive(L)
Beauty Bush(L)
Blackhaw Viburnum
Border Privet(L)
Chinese Lilac(L)
Common Lilac(L)
European Cranberrybush Viburnum
Gray Dogwood(L)
Harry Lauder's Walkingstick(P)
Koreanspice Viburnum(P)
Nannyberry Viburnum
Ninebark(L)
Peking Cotoneaster(L)
Rose of Sharon(L)
Roughleaf Dogwood(L)
Siberian Pea Shrub(L)
Snowball Bush Viburnum(L)
Staghorn Sumac(L)
Vanhoutte Spirea(L)
Winter Honeysuckle(L)

Medium Deciduous Shrubs (4 to 8')

Butterfly Bush(L)
Compact Burning Bush (Winged Euonymus)
Flowering Quince(L)
Forsythia(L)
Fragrant Sumac(L)
Golden Currant(L)
Japanese Barberry(L)

Medium Deciduous Shrubs (cont.)

Mentor Barberry(L)
Mockorange(L)
Meyer's Lilac(L) (also sold as Korean Lilac)
Red Chokeberry(P)
Redosier Dogwood
Landscape, Shrub & Species Roses (various cultivars)
Siberian Dogwood (often sold as Redtwigged)
Snowmound Spirea(L)
Spreading Cotoneaster(L)

Small Deciduous Shrubs (under 4')

Alpine Currant(L)
Bluemist(L) (also sold as Bluemist Spirea)
Bumald Spirea(L) (ie. 'Anthony Waterer' or 'Froebel')
Chenault Coralberry(L)
Cranberry Cotoneaster
Crimson Pygmy Barberry(L)
Gro Low Sumac(L)
Indiancurrant Coralberry(L)
Japanese Flowering Quince(L)
Kobold Barberry(L)
Landscape, Shrub & Species Roses (various cultivars)
Russian Sage(L)
Snowberry(L)
Saint Johnswort(L)
'Tom Thumb' Cotoneaster

Evergreen Trees

Black Hills Spruce(L)
Colorado Blue Spruce(P)
Eastern Red Cedar(L)
Junipers(L) (avoid J. scopulorum cultivars)
Ponderosa Pine(L)

Large Evergreen Shrubs (over 8')

Junipers(L) (avoid J. scopulorum cultivars)

Medium Evergreen Shrubs (4 to 8')

Firethorn(P) (Pyracantha)
Junipers(L)
Mahonia(P)
Manhattan Euonymus(P)
Yews(P)

Small Evergreen Shrubs (under 4')

Compact Mahonia(P)
Junipers(L)
'William Penn' Barberry(P)
Euonymus(P) (various cultivars)

March 2003

Revised November 2007