

Thank you for participating in GRU's 11th Annual Tree-Mendous Appreciation Day.....

Listed below are the low-growing tree and shrub species provided by GRU this year along with their characteristics and needs to help you plant them in the right place.

These low growing trees can be planted safely under utility lines, or used for ornamental decoration in other areas.

Remember! Plant the right tree in the right place.

Tree species	Scientific name	Growth rate	Mature Size	Flower color & season	Fruit color & season	Wildlife species Attracted	Light needs	Uses/Comments
Crape myrtle 'Watermelon Red', 'Miami Pink', and 'Tonto Red'	Lagerstroemia indica cultivars	Moderate	30' x 25'	Colors will vary; spring to summer	Brown; fall	yellow rumped warbler, ruby crowned kinglet	○ ●	Popular urban specimen and accent tree adding color, prune in late winter/early spring to promote summer flowering. 'Watermelon Red', 'Miami Pink', and 'Tonto Red' varieties available this year.
Martha Jane Flowering Nectarine	Prunus persica	Moderate	30' x 30'	Dark-pink, double flowered and prolific, spring	small; fall	mocking bird, summer tanager, vireos	○ ●	Beautiful accent tree for color. Like the peaches, but a red-leaved nectarine with a beautiful dark pink double flower. Very attractive early spring.
Flowering Taiwan Cherry	Prunus campulata	Moderate/Fast	30' x 30'	Red, Very showy; spring	Inconspicuous; Spring	Hummingbirds, butterflies	○ ●	Good accent or backyard patio tree for wildlife. Not a Florida native, but very suitable for the area.
Red Buckeye	Aesculus pavia	Moderate	25' x 25'	Red; spring	Tan; fall	Hummingbirds, butterflies, orioles	○ ●	Best planted in semi shade. Good specimen tree with high wildlife value! Caution—the large fruits are toxic.
East Palatka holly	Ilex x attenuata 'East Palatka'	Moderate	45' x 20'	White; spring	Red; fall	cedar wax wing, robin, bluebird, thrushes	○ ●	Specimen and popular street tree, berries eaten by birds; columnar canopy shape used by birds for cover and nesting.
Flowering Peach 'Tropic Blaze' and 'Florida Home'	Prunus persica	Moderate	35' x 35'	White-pink, double flowered and prolific; spring	Small peaches; summer	Thrushes, robins, bluebird	○ ●	Another locally developed flowering tree species. Great for spring color! Wilted leaves, stems and seeds can cause poisoning if ingested.

Shrub species	Scientific name	Growth rate	Mature Size	Flower color & season	Florida native	Wildlife species Attracted	Light needs	Uses/Comments
Azaleas 'GG Gerbing', 'Formosa' and 'Pinxter native'	Rhododendron species	Moderate	Varies; 10' x 10' typical	Colors vary; spring	Yes	Several species can use azaleas for cover	○ ●	Mass planting, border and accent shrub widely seen throughout North Florida region. Provides great color. 'GG Gerbing', 'Formosa' and the Florida native variety are the choices this year.
Yaupon holly and "Mary Nell" holly	Ilex vomitoria, Ilex species	Moderate	25' x 15'	Inconspicuous	Yes	Many small bird species	○ ●	Dense and compact shrub used by many wildlife species. Tea made from plant parts was used by native Floridians as a diuretic. "Mary Nell" is used for borders.
Summersweet	Clethra alnifolia	Moderate/Fast	6' x 5'	White to pink; July through September	Yes	Ruby throated hummingbird, bees	○ ●	An upright shrub with fragrant flowers. Good for borders or mixed in butterfly gardens.
Yellow/Star anise	Illicium parviflorum	Moderate	15'x 15'	yellow and fragrant; spring	Yes	Hummingbird, thrush, waxwings	○ ●	Good border plant for screening or hedge – evergreen. Yellow flowers in spring/summer.
Strawberry shrub	Calycanthus floridus	Moderate	Mounding form to 8'	Rusty red; spring to summer	Yes	Hummingbirds, butterflies	○ ●	Fruity scent to the flowers and easy to grow and good for entryways. Can dry the flowers, leaves, twigs and bark for potpourri.
Butterfly gingers	A wide variety of families are available	Moderate	1' to 6'	Depends on the variety	No	Butterflies and hummingbirds	●	Most gingers like shady areas. They are mostly pest-free and require little maintenance. Varieties are used for their fragrance and the roots can also be used in cooking.
Cast Iron Plant	Aspidistra eliator	Slow	2 feet	Brown-purple; inconspicuous	No	Small insects and lizards	●	Groundcover and edging plant. Tough plant !! Ideal for shady areas where other plants do not grow well.
Simpson's stopper	Myrcianthes fragrans	Moderate	30' x 20'	White and showy; throughout the year	Yes	Cedar waxwing, robin, cardinals, bluebird	○ ●	Can be used as a hedge or screen. Bark shows off nicely when trained into a small tree. Attracts butterflies.
Fetter-Bush/ Pipestem	Agarista populifolia	Moderate	10' x 10'	White and showy; spring	Yes	Many small birds	○ ●	Does well along moist woodlands, shaded banks and streams, and acclimates well to home landscaping situations.

○ = Full sun ● = Partial sun/Partial shade ● = Full shade

Information from "Manual of woody landscape plants" 4th edition by Michael A. Dirr, "Southern Trees: An expert system for selecting trees" CDROM by Gilman, Beck, Watson, Fowler, Weigle and Morgan.