

Flowering Tree Suggestions for the City Arboretum



***Aesculus californica* California buckeye.** Small spreading tree, often multi trunked. White flowers in spring. Drought tolerant, loses leaves in early summer. Fruits are toxic.



***Aesculus carnea* Red horse chestnut.** Grows to 40ft. with 8" plumes of pink or red flowers. O'Neill has single bright red flowers. Good in spring, but leaves may scorch and turn brown and brittle in hot sun.



***Albizia julibrissin*, Silk Tree.** Pink flowers late July/August over long season. Makes flat topped spreading tree which would look good if viewed from the Oak Knoll. Needs some protection from severe cold. Flowers loved by hummingbirds but can be messy. There is a bronze leaved form.



***Catalpa bignonioides*, Indian Bean.** Clusters of white 2" trumpet shaped flowers with brown markings in late spring and early summer followed by long bean-like seed pods. Tough tree, heat and cold tolerant, long lived. Some litter from flowers and seed pods.





***XChitalpa tashkentensis* Morning Cloud or Pink Dawn.** Cross between Catalpa and native Desert Willow. Small low water use tree with showy flowers lasting much of the summer. Some litter from dropped flowers



Cercis, Redbud. Mauve-pink flowers in spring before leafing out. Leaves flutter in breeze, like an aspen. Some newer varieties have interestingly colored foliage. Slow growing.



Crataegus phaenopyrum, Washington hawthorn. Small tree. Glossy leaves, white flowers, good fall colors (orange, scarlet, purplish), shiny red fruits remain through winter. Also, hawthorn least prone to fireblight.



***Koelreuteria paniculata*, Goldenrain tree.** Small tree with panicles of yellow flowers in early summer. Followed by brown or pinkish papery seed capsules. Good autumn color. Heat and drought tolerant.



***Lagerstroemia* Crepe Myrtle. *Lagerstroemia indica x fauriei* 'Tuscarora'** Small, multi trunked tree with good display of flowers (rose, red, lilac or white) in late July/August.



***Lagerstroemia fauriei*, Japanese crape myrtle.** White flowers, good form, interesting bark.



***Liriodendron tulipifera*, Tulip Tree.** Handsome tree which is known to grow well here (there is already one beside Senior Center parking lot). Grows very tall, has showy yellow tulip shaped flowers. They are produced high up so one has to look for them.



Magnolia x soulangeana (deciduous). There are a variety of hardy magnolias which have spectacular flowers, but they tend to flower very early so almost always get damaged by frosts in the Bishop area. However, occasionally they perform very well. Tend to be bushy rather than large trees. Don't like drying winds. Carefully selected late blooming variety might be worth a try. This one grows in West Bishop sheltered between a house and a fence.



Magnolia grandiflora. Evergreen. There are a couple of good specimens locally which are growing in sheltered spots with an abundant supply of water. Mostly those that have been planted around Bishop look very stressed and have not grown well at all. The leaves burn in strong sun and don't tolerate drying winds, but given the ideal spot and correct cultivar and plenty of water, may do well.



Malus, Flowering crab apples. Extensive number of varieties with different growth and flowering patterns. Colors white through to dark red. Fruits yellow, orange or red. In order to avoid sticky fruit drop choose varieties with small fruits which are held onto the tree over the winter.



Prunus, Flowering cherry. Numerous varieties to choose from depending on site. "Amanagowa" is very upright growing when young (like a Lombardy poplar), while others spread, "Shirotae" grows very horizontally. Colors from white, to pink. Flowers single or double. Subject to borers.



***Prunus*, Flowering plum.** Available with a variety of flower colors (white, light pink) and in single or double forms. Some are fragrant. Foliage color can be green or various shades of red/purple.



***Pyrus*, Ornamental pear.** Early flowering small tree. White flowers. Selection of different habits to choose from. Performs well in the area. Branches tend to be weak with age.



***Robinia x ambigua*, Locust** "Purple robe." (Purple-pink), or "Idahoensis" (rose). Tough, fast growing, showy flowers early spring, low water requirements. Reliable. Tends to sucker.



***Sophora japonica*. Japanese Pagoda Tree.** Long clusters of yellowish white flowers in summer. Needs moderate water. Does not provide special Fall color.



***Vitex agnus-castus*, Chaste Tree.** Small tree or shrub. May freeze to the ground in cold winters, and then become a multi trunked tree. Violet, somewhat lilac-like flowers in summer to fall. Old specimen grows on Yaney Street in Bishop.

