Trees for Hillsborough Yards

Shirley Denton

2 Default Native Trees

Live Oak – *Quercus virginiana*

Southern Magnolia
Magnolia virginiana

It Should Start with Planning

- How big is the yard or landscape?
- How big is the house/building relative to the yard? Do you want the trees to dominate? Or the house/building?
- What is the setting (city, suburban subdivision, semi-rural, rural)?
- What are your goals: Birds & insects & wildlife? Shade? Solar energy? Wildflowers?
- Do you want to focus on “native here” or “native in FL or the SE”
- Do you have home owners’ association concerns?
- What is your soil and drainage?

Size of Building and Size of Tree Matter

>60 ft	40-60 ft	20-40 ft	<20 ft

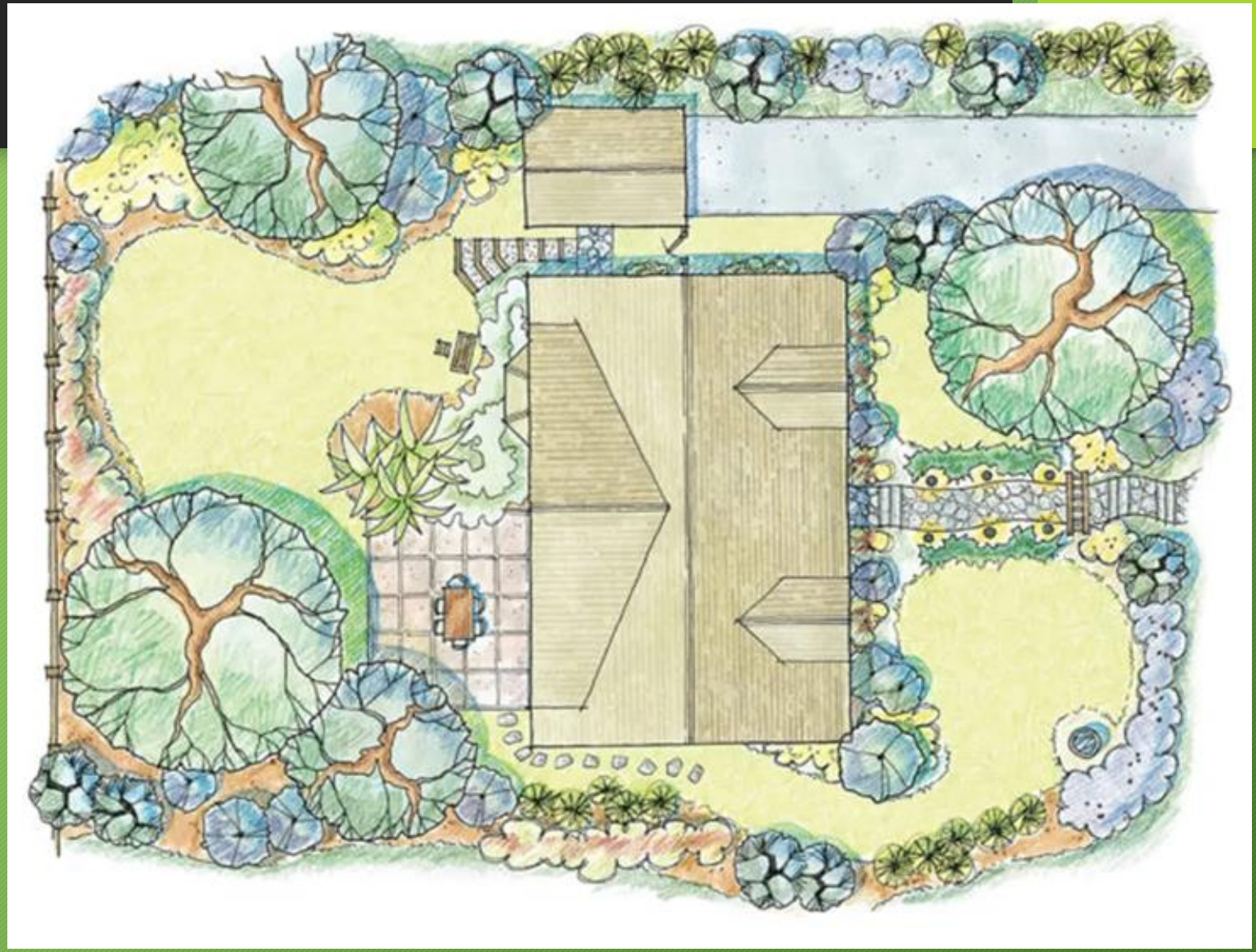
Lot Size Matters

Large Lot

4 trees, some large

Hypothetical example from Fine Gardening

https://www.finegardening.com/article/garden-design-basics-creating-well-thought-plan



Lot Size Matters

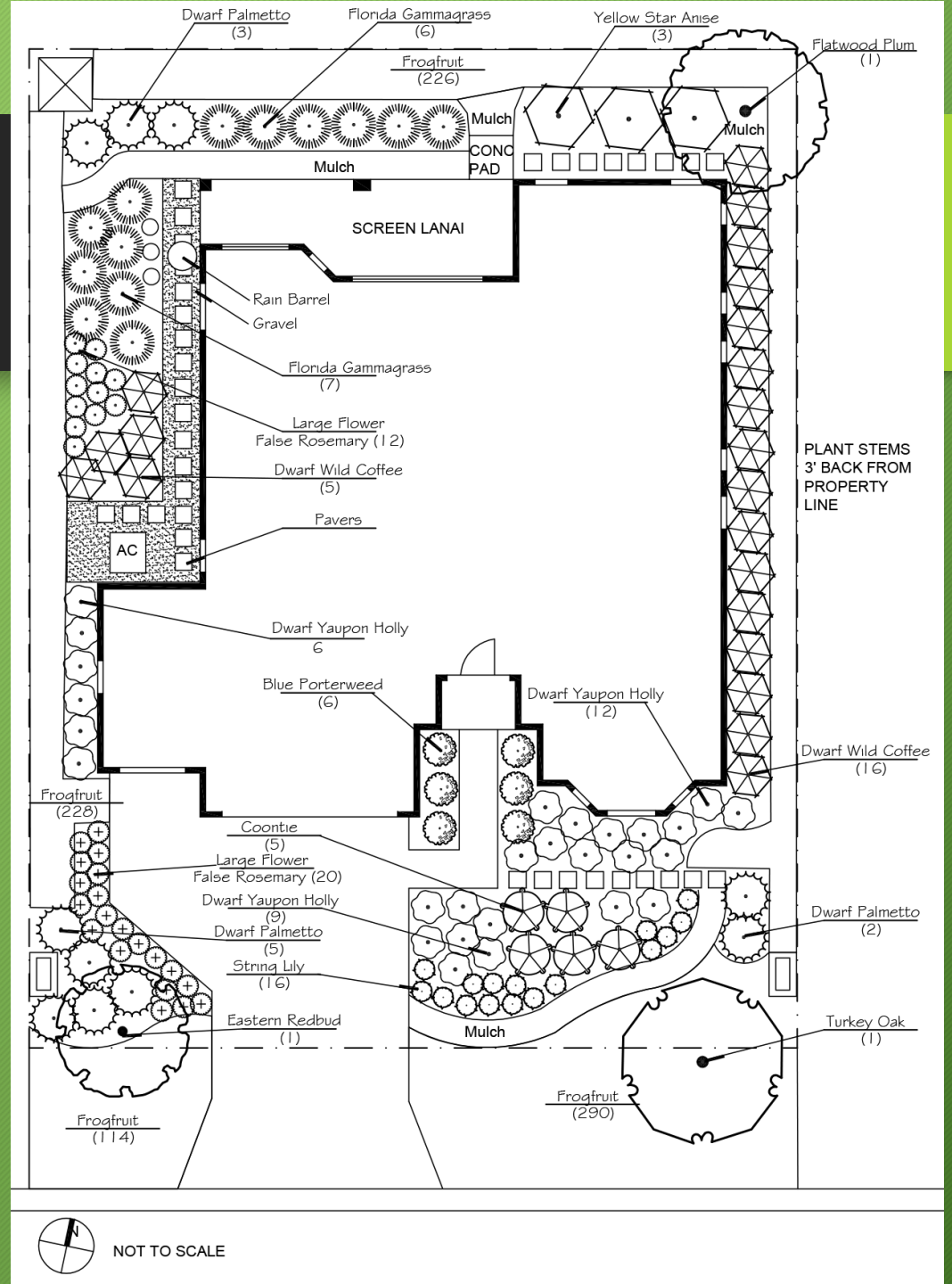
Example from The Villages Chapter

- Typical subdivision lot
- Strict HOA

3 trees, all small

Examples in the IFAS Florida friendly document are similar

https://thevillages.fnpschapters.org



Trees of Hillsborough County -- Larger

Large (over 60 ft)		Moderate (40-60 ft)	
Recommended	Recommended	Recommended	Reserve for Special Uses
Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)	Pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*)	Scrub hickory (*Carya floridana*)	Box-elder (*Acer negundo*)
Pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*)	Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)	Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)	Strangler fig (*Ficus aurea*)
Hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*)	Basswood (*Tilia americana*)	Gordonia (Gordonia *lasianthus*)	Pop ash (*Fraxinus caroliniana*)
Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)	American elm (*Ulmus americana*)	American holly (Ilex opaca)	Red bay (*Persea borbonia*)
Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)		Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)	Jamaca dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*)
Slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*)		Sweet-bay magnolia (Magnolia virginiana)	Red mangrove (*Rhyzophora mangle*)
Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*)	Reserve for Special Uses	Red mulberry (*Morus rubra*)	Coastal-plain willow (*Salix caroliniana*)
Loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*)	Water hickory (*Carya aquatica*)	Sand pine (*Pinus clausa*)	Sassafrass (*Sassafras albidum*)
Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)	Swamp tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica* var. *biflora*)		
Upland laurel oak (*Quercus hemisphaerica*)	Swamp laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*)		
Shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*)	Water oak (*Quercus nigra*)		
Live oak (*Quercus virginiana*)			
Cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*)			

Trees of Hillsborough County -- Smaller

Small (20-40)		Subcanopy (<20)	
Recommended	Reserve for Special Uses	Recommended	Reserve for Special Uses
Musclewood (*Carpinus caroliniana*)	Buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus*)	Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)	Chickasaw plum (*Prunus angustifolia*)
Catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*)	Swamp dogwood (*Cornus foemina*)	Pigmy Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus pigmaeus*)	Chapman's oak (*Quercus chapmanii*)
Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*)	Laurel cherry (*Prunus caroliniana*)	White fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)	Scrub wild olive (*Cartrema floridanum*)
Dahoon holly (*Ilex cassine*)	Soapberry (*Sapindus sapinaria*)	Yaupon holly (Ilex vomitoria)	Saffron plum (*Sideroxylon celastinum*)
Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)	Black mangrove (*Avicennia fagara*)	Rusty lyonia (*Lyonia ferruginea*)	Styrax (*Styrax Americanum*)
Sand live oak (*Quercus geminata*)	Gumbo-limbo (*Bursera simarubra*)	Scrub bay (*Persea humilis*)	Small-flower pawpaw (*Asimina parviflora*)
Turkey oak (*Quercus laevis*)		Flatwoods plum (*Prunus umbellata*)	Parsley haw (Crataegus marshallii)
Tough bumelia (*Sideroxylon tenax*)		Myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*)	White mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*)
		Sparkleberry (Vaccinium arboretum)	Sand holly (*Ilex ambigua*)
		Hercules club (*Xanthoxylum clava-herculis*)	Possum haw (*Ilex decidua*)

Options

- Simplicity – focus on what will survive and thrive
- Historical – what was here pre-Caucasian invasion
  - The original indiginous peoples no longer exist (the Seminoles brought Cherokee values to FL)
- Old Southern Cultural
  - Think open-grown live oaks dripping with Spanish moss, southern plantations
- Modern “semi-tropical” – what people retire to
  - Think palms, tropical ferns, etc.
  - Think pan-tropical species with big drip-tipped leaves (tropical rain forest)
- Ecological – Ideals closest to defined goals (wildlife, sea level change, etc.)
  - Climate change friendly
  - Wildlife friendly
  - Earth friendly (conserve energy, conserve water, etc.)
- Personal preference modified by practicality

We are in the Southeastern Temperate zone - we are not sub-tropical

- Freezes can and do occur.
- Long periods without freezes can occur
- Droughts will occur as will untimely excesses of rainfall
- Summers are long and hot
- We will have hurricanes

Appropriate tree choices need:

1. Cold tolerance – we will get freezes but less often
2. Heat tolerance – summer may be hotter (but peninsular location moderates extremes)
3. Drought tolerance
4. Wind tolerance (T-strorms and hurricanes)

Southeastern Temperate Zone

Trees of Hillsborough County

Large (over 60 ft)

Native to Hillsborough County	Native to Hillsborough County	Native to Florida but Not Necessarily Hillsborough County
Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)	Cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*)	River birch (*Betula nigra*)
Pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*)	Pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*)	Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
Hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*)	Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)	Loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*)
Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)	Basswood (*Tilia americana*)	American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)
Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)	American elm (*Ulmus americana*)	
Slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*)		
Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*)		
Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)		
Upland laurel oak (*Quercus hemisphaerica*)		
Shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*)		
Live oak (*Quercus virginiana*)		
Sand live oak (*Quercus geminata*)		

Live Oak
Quercus virginiana

Essentially evergreen

Pros
- Adapted to moist to dry soils
- Good wildlife tree (nesting, food for birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Good epiphyte tree
- Strong wood, wind resistant
- Moderately slow growing
- Tolerant of root disturbance

Considerations
- Can spread very broadly in open settings
- Overgrowth of Spanish moss can be an issue

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Red Maple
Acer rubrum

Deciduous

Adapted to wet to somewhat moist soils

Pros
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Attracts native bees and honeybees
- Late fall and early spring red color
- Fast growing

Considerations
- Not highly drought tolerant
- Fairly weak

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Pignut Hickory
Carya glabra

Deciduous

Pros
- Adapted to average to dry soil moisture
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Large informal settings

Considerations
- Intolerant of root disturbance

Closely kin Scrub Hickory is smaller

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Hackberry
Celtis laevigata

Deciduous

Adapted to moist to average soils

Pros
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
  - Larval host for hackberry emperor (*Asterocampa celtis*), and mourning cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*) butterflies. Sole larval host plant for American snout (*Libytheana carineta*) in South Florida; also larval host for tawny emperor (*Asterocampa clyton*), question mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*) butterflies.
- Can have interesting bark
- Tolerant of root disturbance

Considerations
Not highly drought tolerant

Hackberry

Celtis laevigata

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Evergreen

Adapted to average soils

Pros

- Good wildlife tree
  - Primarily pollinated by beetles
  - Seeds eaten by birds and small mammals
- Tolerant of root disturbance
- Makes a good specimen tree

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Slash Pine

Pinus elliottii

Evergreen

Well suited to moist to “average” spoil moisture, less suited to extremely dry conditions

Pro:

- Makes a good shade tree
- Fast growing
- Very important to wildlife

Loblolly pine is similar in appearance and culture

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Pinus elliottii

- *Pinus elliottii*

Longleaf Pine
Pinus Palustris

Evergreen

Well suited to average to dry soils

Long-lived

Very fire tolerant

Pros:
Makes a good shade tree

Considerations:
- Multi-year grass stage
- Buy as sapling that is ready to start shooting up

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina

Deciduous

Needs average to dry soil

Pros:

- Birds disperse the seed
- Pollinated by bees
- Makes a good shade tree

Considerations:

- Fairly short lived and not super strong
- Birds spread the seeds

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Upland Laurel Oak
Quercus hemispherica

Tardily deciduous

Pros
- Adapted to average soil moisture
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Large informal settings

Considerations
- Relatively Short Lived
- Fast growing and relatively weak

Closely kin Swamp Laurel Oak and Water Oak are more suited to wetland settings

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Shumard Oak
Quercus shumardii

Deciduous

One of the few Florida oaks whith “oaky” leaves

Adapted to moist to average soil moisture

Pros
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Fairly long-lived
- Good street or yard tree

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Missouri Botantical Garden

Cabbage Palm
Sabal palmetto

Evergreen

Adapted to moist-to dry soils

Pros:
- Important to wildlife (nesting, food)
  - Larval host plant for Monk Skipper (*Asbolis capucinus*) butterfly.
  - Pollinated by bees.
- Can be used as a street tree

Considerations:
- Subject to Texas phoenix palm decline
- Seeds very readily

Florida State Tree
Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Pond cypress
Taxodium ascendens

Deciduous

Well suited to seasonally flooded to moderately moist soils, fairly drought tolerant

In nature, important to water quality

Pros:
- Valuable to wildlife
- Easy to grow
- Fast growing
- Fire adapted

Considerations
- May produce knees even if upland grown

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Bald cypress
Taxodium distichum

Deciduous

Well suited to seasonally flooded to moderately moist soils, fairly drought tolerant

In nature, important to water quality and flows

Pros:
- Valuable to wildlife
- Often supports orchids and bromeliads

- Considerations
- May produce knees in upland environments

Basswood

Tilia americana

Deciduous

Prefers moderately moist soils

Pros:

- Good pollinator plant (bees, flies, moths)

Considerations

- Often not well formed and potentially weak

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

American elm
Ulmus americana

Deciduous

Adapted to wet to average soil moisture

Pros
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Fast growing
- Prized for its vase-shaped form
- Adaptive – specimen tree, street tree, etc.

Considerations
- Subject to Dutch elm disease, but rarely if ever in Florida
- Subject to high wind breakage

Found naturally in Hillsborough County


Florida State University website photo

River Birch
Betula nigra

Deciduous

Known for flakey, salmon-colored bark

Needs moist to average soil, tolerant of acidic soils

Pros
- Makes a good specimen tree

Considerations
- Fairly weak
- Not drought tolerant

Found naturally from Levy County and north

Tulip tree, yellow poplar

Liriodendron tulipifera

Deciduous

Needs moist to average soil

Pros

- Makes a good specimen tree
- Fast growing
- Valuable to bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds

Considerations

- Has fairly high nutrient needs
- Not very drought tolerant

Found naturally from Pasco County and north

American sycamore
Platinus occidentalis

Deciduous

Needs moist to moderately dry soil

Pros
- Makes a good specimen tree
- Fast growing
- Noted for interesting bark

Considerations
- Big, coarse tree – huge leaves (litter in fall)
- Not suited to small lots

Found naturally in north Florida

Trees of Hillsborough County – Moderate (40-60 ft)

Moderate (40-60 ft)	
Recommended	Native to Florida but Not Necessarily Hillsborough County
Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)	Winged elm (*Ulmus alata*)
Loblolly bay (*Gordonia lasianthus*)	
American holly (*Ilex opaca*)	
Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)	
Sweet-bay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)	
Red mulberry (*Morus rubra*)	
Sand live oak(*Quercus geminata*)	
Sand pine (*Pinus clausa*)	

Persimmon
Diospyros virginiana

Deciduous

Adapted to a very wide range of soil moisture

Slow growing

Planted for its fruits (edible) for fall color

Pros:
- Valuable to wildlife
- Fall color (red)

Considerations
- Suckers

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Loblolly bay
Gordonia lasianthus

Evergreen

Grows in moist areas

Fast growing

Use as a specimen tree or screen

Pros:

- Large, attractive flowers
- Long bloom period
- Attracts bees, flowers, hummingbirds

Considerations

- Not drought tolerant (poor choice for most residential landscapes)

American holly
Ilex opaca

Evergreen

Adapted to a very wide range of soil conditions

Fast growing

Pros:
- Fruits dispersed by birds
- Bee pollinated

Considerations:
- Need a male plant nearby (within 0.25 mi) for pollination
- Highly flammable

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana

Evergreen

Adapted to moist to dry soils

Pros

- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- If planted in rows, can make a buffer or screen
- Sometimes used for Christmas trees

Considerations

- Needs a lot of sun for establishment
- Needles can be “prickly” feeling

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Sweetgum
Liquidambar styraciflua

Deciduous

Needs moist to average soil (I have it in very dry soil)

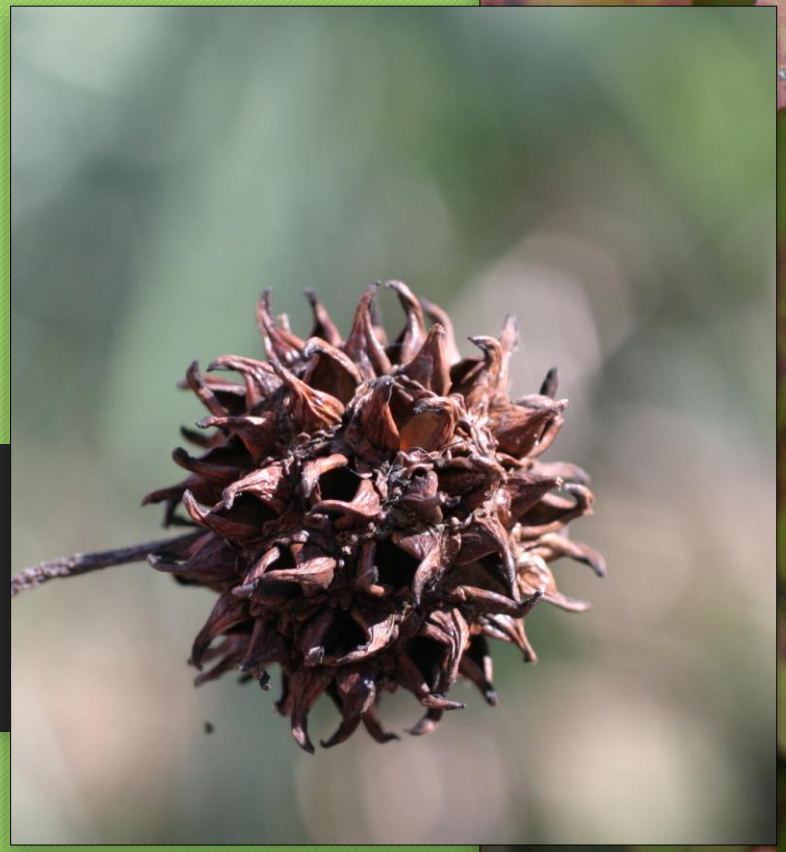
Pros:
Makes a good shade tree
Known for interesting leaves that produce fall color

Considerations
- Clonal – in nature it forms natural thickets
- Produces fruits that are spiny

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Sweetgum

Liquidambar styraciflua



Sweetbay Magnolia

Magnolia virginiana

Evergreen

Adapted to moist soils

Fast growing

Pros:

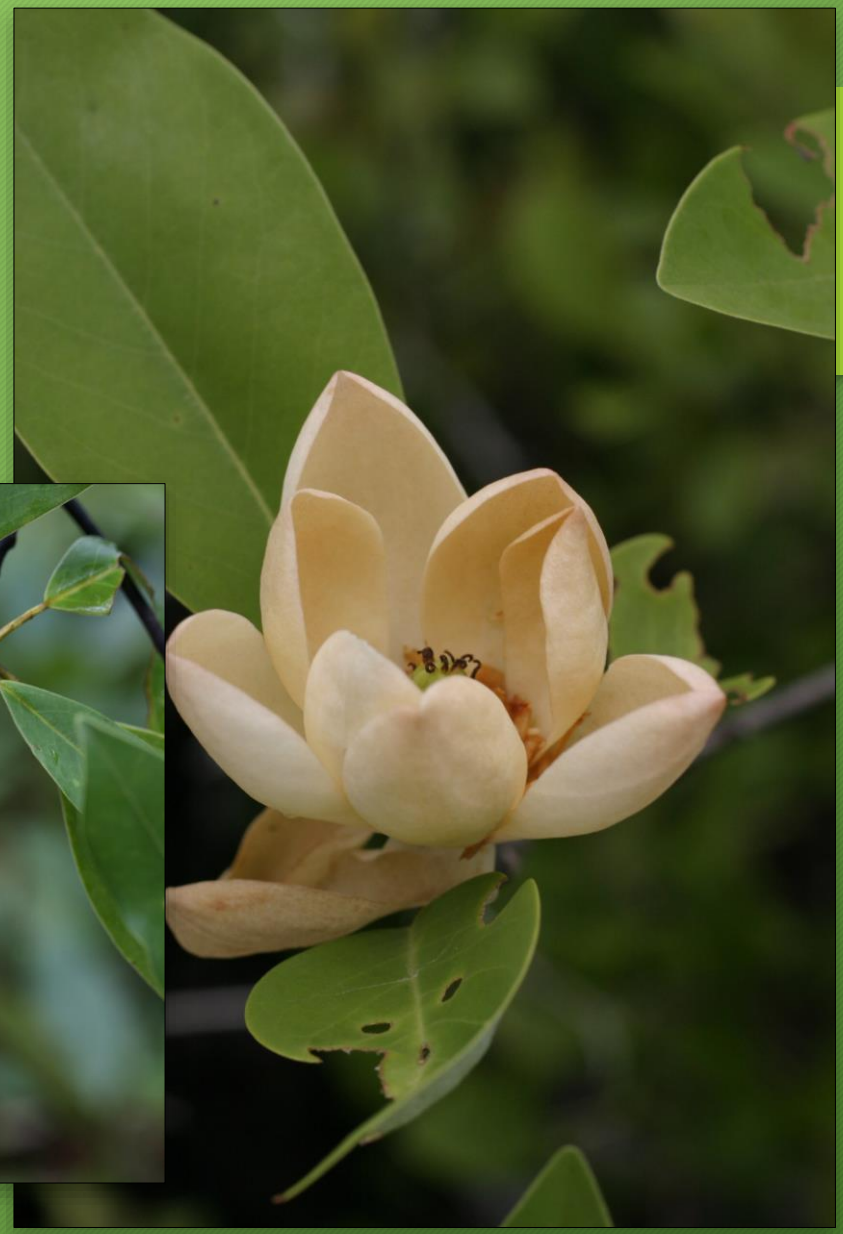
- Valuable to wildlife.
  - Seeds are eaten by birds and small mammals. Deer browse leaves and twigs.
  - Larval host plant for Eastern tiger swallowtail (*Pterourous glaucus*) and palamedes (*Papilio palamedes*) butterflies.
  - Pollinated by beetles

Considerations

- Not drought or fire tolerant

Sweetbay Magnolia

Magnolia virginiana



Red Mulberry

Morus rubra

Deciduous

Adapted to average soil moiture

Pros:

- Valuable to wildlife.
  - Fruits are eaten by birds and small mammals.
  - Box turtules like the fruits

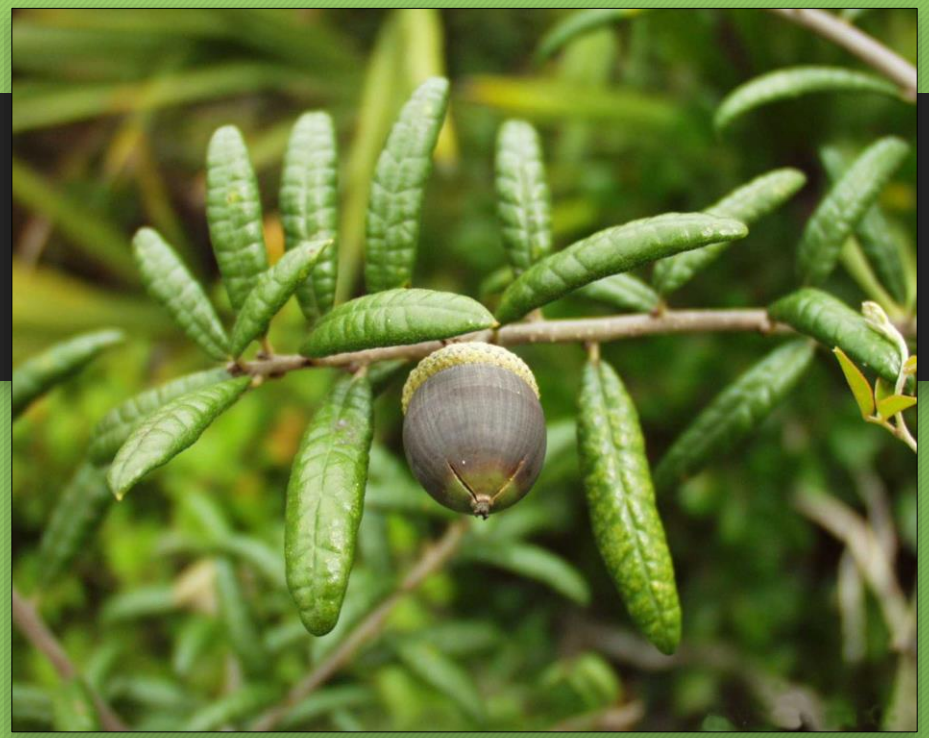
Considerations

- To get fruit, need male plant (occasionally monecious, usually dioecious)
- Can be messy

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Sand live oak

Quercus geminata



More-or-less evergreen

Best on dry soils

Pros

- Makes a good shade tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Small mammals eat the fruits
  - Larval host plant for oak hairstreak (Fixsenia favonius), Horace's duskywing (Erynnis horatius), red-banded hairstreak (Calycopis cecrops) and white-M hairstreak (Parrhasius m-album) butterflies.
  - possible larval host for Juvenal's duskywing (Erynnis juvenalis).

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Sand live oak

Quercus geminata

Sand Pine

Pinus clausa

Evergreen

Well suited to dry soils
Valuable to wildlife
Fast growing

Considerations:

- Fire adapted and very flammable
- Short-lived
- Weak

Winged Elm
Ulmus alata

Deciduous

Pros
- Adapted to average-to-dry soil moisture
- Good wildlife tree (birds, squirrels, etc.)
- Fast growing
- Prized for its winged twigs

Considerations
- Subject to Dutch elm disease, but rarely if ever in Florida (the vector is not here)
- Subject to high wind breakage

Found naturally in north Florida

Trees of Hillsborough County -- Small Trees

Small (20-40)	
Recommended	Native to Florida but Not Necessarily Hillsborough County
Musclewood, American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)	Catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*)
Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*)	Hop hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)
Dahoon holly (*Ilex cassine*)	
Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)	
Turkey oak (*Quercus laevis*)	
Tough bumelia (*Sideroxylon tenax*)	

Musclewood, American hornbeam

Carpinus caroliniana

Deciduous

Floodplain species but drought tolerant

Pros

- Good wildlife tree
  - Larval host for tiger swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*), striped hairstreak (*Satyrium liparops*), and red-spotted purple or white admiral (*Limenitis arthemis*) butterflies.
  - Birds and small mammals eat the seeds

Considerations

- Not highly drought tolerant

Found in Hillsborough County

Flowering dogwood
Cornus florida

Deciduous

Best on well-drained soils

Pros
- White flowers (actually bracts) in spring
- Good specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Attracts long-tongued bees, short-tongued bees, wasps, flies, and butterflies. Larval host for cecropia silkmoth (*Hyalophora cecropia*) and spring azure butterfly (*Celastrina ladon*)..
  - Birds and small mammals eat the fruits

Considerations
- Hillsborough County is at extreme southern end of its range and it often does not do well

Flowering dogwood

Cornus florida

Dahoon holly

Ilex cassine

Evergreen

Best on moist to average soils

Pros

- Good specimen tree
- Colorful (red) fruits
- Good wildlife tree
  - Bees pollinate the flowers
  - Birds eat the fruits

Considerations

- Requires a male within ¼ mile for pollination
- Naturally clonal (you may get sprouts)
- Not highly drought tolerant

- Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Turkey oak
Quercus laevis

Deciduous

Best on dry soils

Pros
- Good wildlife tree
  - Used by woodpeckers and wild turkey
  - Used by squirrels and other mammals including white tailed deer
  - Larval host plant for Horace's duskywing (*Erynnis horatius*), red-banded hairstreak (*Calycopis cecrops*) and white-M hairstreak (*Parrhasius m-album*) butterflies)

Considerations
- Very slow growing

- Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Tough bully
Sideroxylon tenax

Deciduous

Best on dry soils

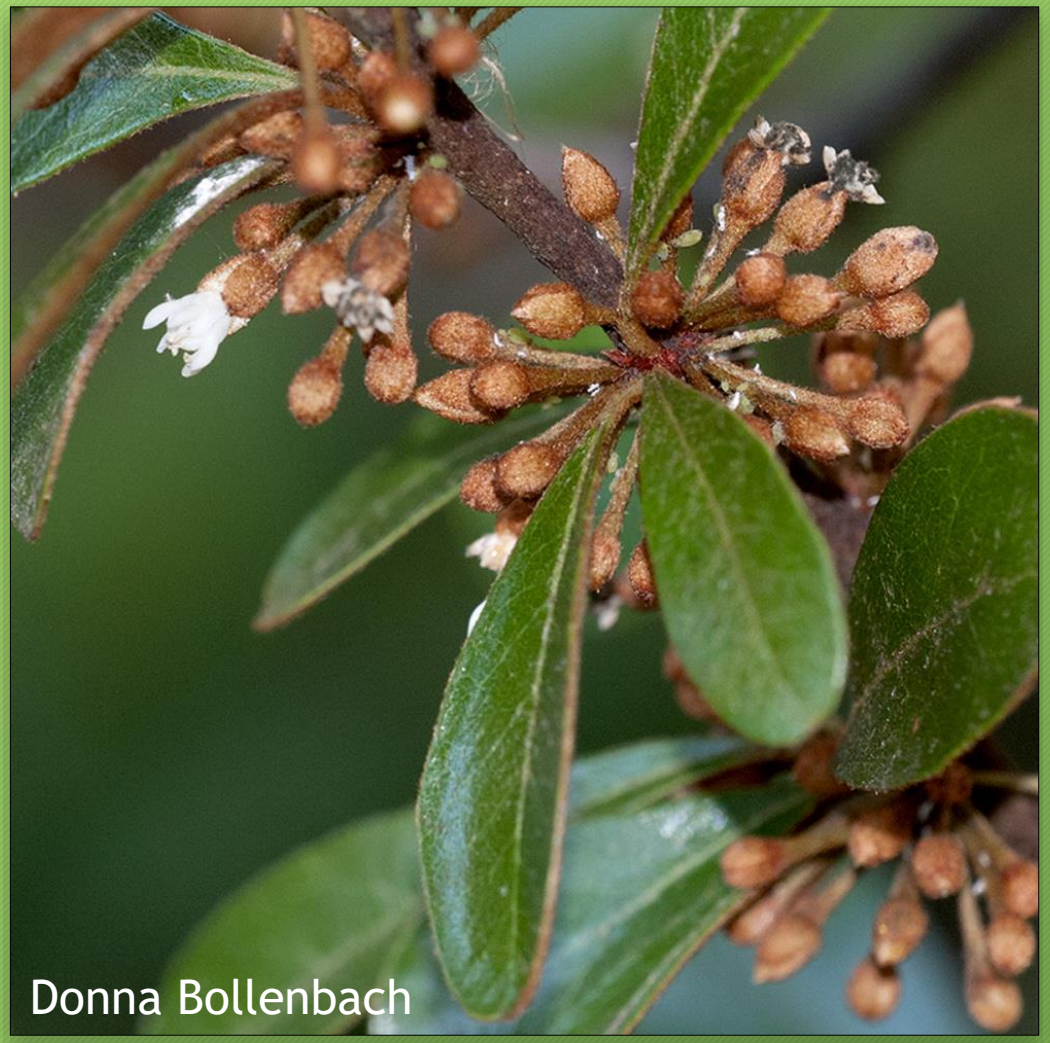
Pros
- Good wildlife tree
  - Birds and mammals eat the fruit
  - Extremely attractive to bees and flies
  - Nectar attracts butterflies

Considerations
- Produces copious seedlings
- Weak wood
- Thorny

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Tough bully

Sideroxylon tenax



Trees of Hillsborough County -- Smaller

Subcanopy (<20)

Recommended	Reserve for Special Uses
Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)	Sand holly (*Ilex ambigua*)
Michaux's hawthorn (*Crataegus michauxii*)	Possum haw (*Ilex decidua*)
Pigmy Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus pigmaeus*)	Chickasaw plum (*Prunus angustifolia*)
White fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)	Chapman's oak (*Quercus chapmanii*)
Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*)	Scrub wild olive (*Cartrema floridanum*)
Rusty lyonia (*Lyonia ferruginea*)	Saffron plum (*Sideroxylon celastinum*)
Scrub bay (*Persea humilis*)	Styrax (*Styrax Americanum*)
Flatwoods plum (*Prunus umbellata*)	Small-flower pawpaw (*Asimina parviflora*)
Myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*)	Parsley haw (*Crataegus marshallii*)
Sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboretum*)	White mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*)
Hercules club (*Xanthoxylum clava-herculis*)	
Wild lime (*Xanthoxylum fagara*)	

Redbud
Cercis canadensis

Deciduous

Best on moist to somewhat dry soils

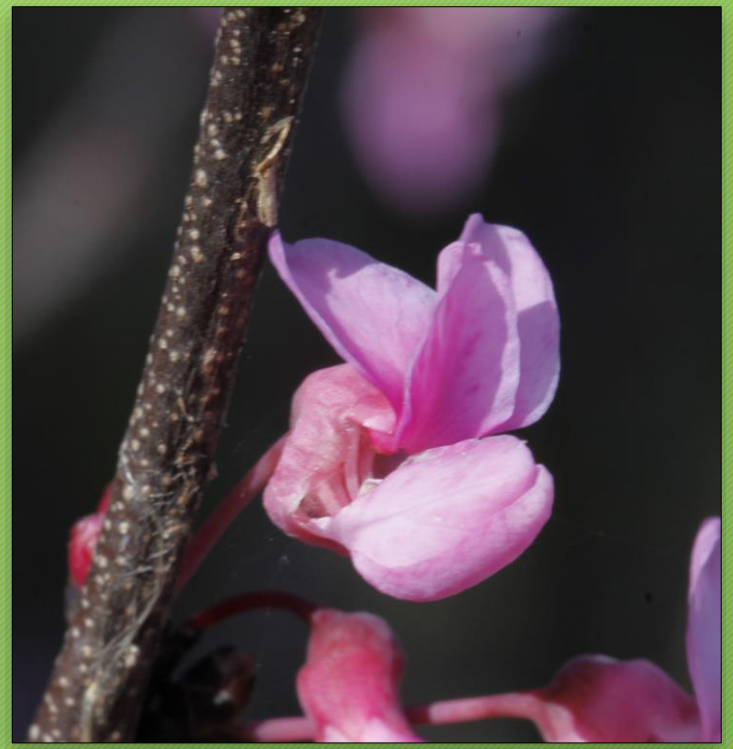
Pros
- Good specimen tree
- Good insect tree
  - Larval host for Henry's elfin (*Callophrys henrici)* and io moth (*Automeris io*).
  - Popular with bees including bumblebees.

Considerations
- Weak wood

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Recbud

Cercis canadensis



Michaux's hawthorn

Crataegus michauxii

Deciduous

Best on moist to dry soils

Pros

- Good specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Attracts pollinators, especially native bees.
  - Birds and other wildlife consume the fruit.
  - Larval food for hummingbird clearwing moth(*Hemaris thysbe*), striped hairstreak butterfly(*Satyrium liparops*), and blinded sphinx moth (*Paonias excaecata*).

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Pygmy fringetree

Chionanthus pygmaeus

Deciduous

Best on dry soils

Pros

- Good specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Pollinated by native bees.
  - Birds eat the fruit.

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

White fringetree

Chionanthus virginicus

Deciduous

Best on moderately moist soils

Pros

- Good specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Pollinated by native bees.
  - Birds eat the fruit.

Occurs naturally in Hillsborough County

Fringetree

Chionanthus virginicus

Yaupon holly
Ilex vomitoria

Evergreen

Best on moist to day soils

Pros
- Good specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Pollinated by bees.
  - Birds eat the fruit.

Considerations
- Clonal
- Needs a male tree for pollination

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Yaupon holly

Ilex vomitoria

Rusty lyonia
Lyonia ferruginea

Evergreen

Best on relatively dry to dry soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Pollinated by bees.

Considerations
- Slow growing
- Difficult to establish

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Rusty lyonia

Lyonia ferruginea

Scrub bay
Persea humilis

Evergreen

Best on relatively dry to dry soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Larval host plant for palamedes swallowtail (*Papilio palamedes*) and spicebush swallowtail (*Papilio troilus*) butterflies.
  - Attracts bees.
  - Dispersed by birds

Considerations
- Slow growing
- Difficult to establish

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Rusty lyonia

Lyonia ferruginea

Flatwoods plum

Prunus umbellata

Deciduous

Best on relatively somewhat moist to relatively dry soils

Pros

- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Attracts bees.
  - Dispersed by birds

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Flatwoods plum

Lyonia ferruginea

Myrtle oak
Quercus myrtifolia

Evergreen

Best on relatively dry to very dry soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
    - Squirrels etc. eat the nuts

Considerations
- Clonal

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Sparkleberry
Vaccinium arboreum

Deciduous

Best on relatively dry to very dry soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Birds and wildlife eat the fruits
  - Larval host for striped hairstreak (Satyrium liparops).
  - Attracts many pollinators, especially valuable to native bees.

Considerations
- Difficult to establish

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Sparkleberry

Vaccineum
arboreum

Hercules' club

Xynthoxylum clava-hercul

Deciduous

Best on relatively dry soils

Pros

- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Larval host for Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*).
  - Birds and other wildlife eat the fruit.

Considerations

- Thorny
- Fairly weak

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Wild-lime
Xynthoxylum fagara

Everrgreen

Best on relatively dry soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
  - Larval host for Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*).
  - Birds and other wildlife eat the fruit.

Considerations
- Thorny
- Fairly weak

Found naturally in Hillsborough County

Catalpa
Catalpa bignonioides

Deciduous

Best on relatively dry soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
- Larval host for catalpa sphinx moth (*Ceratomia catalpae*) and tersa sphinx (*Xylophanes tersa*).
- Attracts various pollinators including butterflies and bees.

Reported once in Hillsborough County


Rick Cantrell

Hop Hornbeam
Ostrya virginiana

Deciduous

Best on relatively dry soils
OK on sands, does well on loamy soils

Pros
- Interesting specimen tree
- Good wildlife tree
- Birds eat the seeds

Reported once in Hillsborough County

FNPS Resources

- https://fnps.org/plants

- Search by Hillsborough (or Hillsborough and surrounding counties)
- Add criteria such as soil characteristics and moisture
- Group by plant form -- we are discussing trees

- You can add more criteria, but hint: best not to require butterflies or their larvae, plus wildlife, plus full sun, etc. Add to much, nothing will fit. All trees support birds, some wildlife, many insects.