Trees for Conservation

A Buyer’s Guide

Converse County Conservation District
ANTELOPE BITTERBRUSH

*Purshia tridentate*

Growth Form: Irregular  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 2-6’ high; to 8’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Slow  
Life Span: Long  
Elevational Range: to 8,500’  
Soil Conditions: Adapted to a wide range of soil conditions  
Possible Insect Problems: Mountain Mahogany Loper, Western Tussock Moth  
Possible Disease Problems: Root Rot, Stem Wilt, Canker  
Wildlife Value: Great; benefits livestock and large game for browsing; important food value for small mammals; provides cover for birds  
Seasonal Cover: Yellow and white blossoms  
Miscellany: Native; great for reclamation and erosion control

BUFFALOBERRY

*Shepherdia argentea*

Growth Form: Round to irregular  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 10’ high and spreading  
Drought Resistance: Good  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Moderate  
Life Span: Long  
Elevational Range: to 7,500’  
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  
Miscellany: Native; edible fruit for jellies; forms thicket
CARAGANA

*Caragana arborescens*

Growth Form: Irregular or hedge-like  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 8-12’ high; 5-8’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Excellent  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 9,500’  
Soil Conditions: Good salt and alkaline tolerance  
Possible Insect Problems: Aphids & Grasshoppers  
Possible Disease Problems: Very resistant  
Wildlife Value: Good; benefits songbirds  
Seasonal Color: Yellow spring flowers  
Miscellany: Does well in poor soils.

CHOKECHERRY

*Prunus virginiana*

Growth Form: Ovoid to irregular  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: 6-20’ high; 6-20’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Good  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 9,000’  
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance  
Possible Insect Problems: Borers, Pear-Slug Sawfly  
Possible Disease Problems: Black knot, Fire Blight  
Wildlife Value: High; benefits song and ground birds. Good; benefits small mammals and browse for deer.  
Seasonal Color: Golden yellow to orange fall foliage
CLIFF SPIREA

*Holodiscus dumosus*

Growth Form: Spreading  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 4-6’ high; 4-6’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Excellent  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevation range: 5,000-9,800’  
Soil Conditions: tolerant of alkaline soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Aphids, Mites  
Possible Disease Problems: Fire Blight, Leaf Spot, Powdery Mildew  
Wildlife Value: Fair; provides cover for song birds  
Seasonal Color: Orange, gold, red, purple, or yellow Fall foliage  
Miscellany: Creamy white flowers

COMMON LILAC

*Syringa vulgaris*

Growth Form: Round to irregular  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 8-12’ high; 8-12’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Very good  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevation range: to 8,000’  
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance  
Possible Insect Problems: Lilac Borer, Leaf Mites, Oyster Shell Scale  
Possible Disease Problems: Lilac Leaf Blotch, Powdery Mildew, some varieties of Leaf Spot  
Wildlife Value: Moderately high; benefits songbirds, cover value  
Seasonal Color: Fragrant purple or white spring flowers  
Miscellany: Develops into a dense barrier
COTONEASTER

Cotoneaster acutifolia

Growth Form: Ovoid to irregular
Crown Density: Dense
Size: 6-8’ high & 3-5’ spread
Drought Resistance: Very good
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevation Range: to 9,500’
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: Oyster Shell Scale
Possible Disease Problems: Fire blight; fairly resistant
Wildlife Value: High; benefits song and game birds
Seasonal Color: Brilliant red-orange foliage
Miscellany: Can be clipped to a hedge

EUROPEAN SAGE

Artemesia abrotanum

Growth Form: Round to irregular
Crown Density: Open
Size: to 8’ high; to 8’ spread
Drought Resistance: Very good
Cold Hardiness: Good
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevation Range: to 6,000’
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: Fairly resistant
Possible Disease Problems: Fairly resistant
Wildlife Value: Fair; cover and browse value
**FASLE INDIGO**

*Amorpha fruticose*

- Growth Form: Irregular
- Crown Density: Dense
- Size: 6-10’ high; 8-10’ spread
- Drought Resistance: Fair
- Cold Hardiness: Excellent
- Growth Rate: Rapid
- Life Span: Moderate
- Elevational Range: to 6,000’
- Soil Conditions: Very adaptable
- Possible Insect Problems: Aphids
- Possible Disease Problems: Unimportant
- Wildlife Value: Good; benefits pollinators
- Seasonal Color: Yellow fall foliage
- Miscellany: Purple flowers; deer resistant

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**FOUR-WING SALTBUSH**

*Atriplex canascens*

- Growth Form: Round to irregular
- Crown Density: Moderate
- Size: 3’ high; 5’ spread
- Drought Resistance: Excellent
- Cold Hardiness: Good
- Growth Rate: Moderate
- Life Span: Long
- Elevational Range: to 8,500’
- Soil Conditions: Excellent alkaline and salt tolerance
- Possible Insect Problems: Grasshoppers
- Wildlife Value: Good; forage value
- Seasonal Color: Mature seeds makes fine contrast
- Miscellany: Native
**GOLDEN CURRENT**

*Ribes aureum*

- Growth Form: Round to irregular
- Crown Density: Moderate
- Size: 7’ high; 3’ spread
- Drought Resistance: Good
- Cold Hardiness: Good
- Growth Rate: Rapid
- Life Span: Moderate
- Elevational Range: to 8,000’
- Soil Conditions: Moist
- Possible Insect Problems: Imported Current Worm, Oyster Shell Scale
- Possible Disease Problems: Blister Rust
- Wildlife Value: Good; food and browse; nesting cover
- Seasonal Color: Red to orange fall color; showy yellow flowers
- Miscellany: Native; edible fruit

**MANCHURIAN APRICOT**

*Prunus armeniaca*

- Growth Form: Rounded
- Crown Density: Moderate
- Size: to 26’ high; to 32’ spread
- Drought Resistance: Moderate
- Cold Hardiness: Excellent
- Growth Rate: Rapid
- Life Span: Long
- Elevational Range: to 7,500’
- Soil Conditions: Prefers loam soils
- Potential Insect Problems: Unimportant
- Potential Disease Problems: Bacterial Canker, Leaf Spot, Powdery Mildew
- Wildlife Value: Good; benefits song birds
- Seasonal Colors: Golden orange fall foliage
- Miscellany: Edible fruit
MOUNTAIN MAHOGANY

*Cercocarpus montanus*

Growth Form: Irregular  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 6’ high; 5’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Excellent  
Cold Hardiness: Good  
Growth Rate: Moderate  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 9,000’  
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

NANKING CHERRY

*Prunus tomentosa*

Growth Form: Round to irregular  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: to 8’ high; to 8’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Good  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 8,000’  
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance  
Possible Insect Problems: Tent Caterpillars, Bark Beetles  
Possible Disease Problem: Shot-Hole Leaf Spot, Black Knot  
Wildlife Value: High; benefits song and game birds  
Seasonal Color: White flowers in spring  
Miscellany: Delicious edible fruit for jellies; blooms early
NATIVE PLUM

Prunus Americana

Growth Form: Irregular
Crown Density: Open
Size: to 8’ high; to 8’ spread
Drought Resistance: Good
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 8,000’
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: Pear-Slug Sawfly
Possible Disease Problems: Fire Blight, Powdery Mildew
Wildlife Value: Excellent; benefits hooved browsers and birds, nesting cover and food value
Seasonal Color: Large white flowers in May
Miscellany: Native; delicious edible fruit for jellies and canning; forms a thicket

NEW MEXICO PRIVET

Forestiera neomexicana

Growth Form: Irregular
Crown Density: Dense
Size: 10’ high
Drought Resistance: Excellent
Cold Hardiness: Good
Growth Rate: Moderate
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 7,500’
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
**RED-OSIER DOGWOOD**

*Cornus serica*

Growth Form: Irregular  
Crown Density: Open  
Size: to 8’ high; to 6’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Fair  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 11,000’  
Soil Conditions: Not suited for dense clays  
Possible Insect Problems: Dogwood Sawfly, Polyphemus Moth, Oyster Shell Scale  
Possible Disease Problems: Cytospora Canker  
Wildlife Value: Excellent; benefits grouse, pheasant, turkey, grosbeak, robin, cedar waxwing  
Seasonal Color: Vivid red foliage and stems; showy white flowers and berries  
Miscellany: For moist sites such as streamside riparian areas

**SAND CHERRY**

*Prunus besseyi*

Growth Form: Spreading  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: 3’ high; 4’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Good  
Cold Hardiness: Good  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Short  
Elevational Range: to 7,500’  
Soil Conditions: Best on sandy to loamy soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Pear-Slug Sawfly, Fall Web Worm  
Possible Disease Problems: Powdery Mildew  
Wildlife Value: Excellent; browse and food value  
Seasonal Color: Pink flowers  
Miscellany: Native; edible fruit
SERVICEBERRY

*Amelanchier alnifolia*

Growth Form: Ovoid to Irregular  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: 6’ high; 5’ spread  
Drought Tolerance: Fair  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Moderate  
Life Span: Long  
Elevational Range: to 9,000’  
Soil Conditions: Moist  
Possible Insect Problems: Pear-Slug Sawfly  
Possible Disease Problems: Leaf Spot, Rust  
Wildlife Value: Excellent; big game browse; food value for upland game  
Seasonal Color: Showy white flowers  
Miscellany: Native; edible fruit; showy flowers  

SHRUBBY CINQUEFOIL

*Potentilla fruticose*

Growth Form: Spreading  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 2-5’ high  
Drought Resistance: Good  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 10,000’  
Soil Conditions: Tolerates dry to moist soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Aphids  
Possible Disease Problems: Unimportant  
Wildlife Value: excellent; benefits pollinators  
Seasonal Color: Inconspicuous  
Miscellany: yellow flowers; deer resistant
SNOWBERRY  
*Symphoricarpos albus*

**Growth Form:** Irregular  
**Crown Density:** Open  
**Size:** 3’ high  
**Drought Resistance:** Fair  
**Cold Hardiness:** Excellent  
**Growth Rate:** Moderate  
**Life Span:** Moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 9,500’  
**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 turkeys, grouse, and other small game  
**Seasonal Color:** White fruit  
**Miscellany:** Native

SUMAC (SKUNKBUSH)  
*Rhus trilobata*

**Growth Form:** Irregular  
**Crown Density:** Dense  
**Size:** to 4’ high; to 8’ spread  
**Drought Resistance:** Excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** Excellent  
**Growth Rate:** Rapid to moderate  
**Life Span:** Moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 8,000’  
**Soil Conditions:** Excellent alkaline tolerance  
**Possible Insect Problems:** Fairly resistant  
**Possible Disease Problems:** Fusarium Wilt  
**Wildlife Value:** Excellent; benefits many bird species  
**Seasonal Color:** Red-orange fall foliage  
**Miscellany:** Native; berries have slight lemon taste when rolled under tongue
THIMBLEBERRY

*Rubus parviflorus*

Growth Form: Irregular and upright  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: to 8’ high; spreading  
Drought Resistance: Poor  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: 7,000-8,000’  
Soil Conditions: Poor alkaline tolerance; prefers moist, well-drained soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Unimportant  
Possible Disease Problems: Unimportant  
Wildlife Value: Excellent; provides a source of food to birds and mammals; attracts pollinators  
Seasonal Color: Orange to maroon foliage  
Miscellany: Native; edible fruit

WAX CURRENT

*Ribes cereum*

Growth Form: Irregular  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: 3’ high; 3-5’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Very good  
Cold Hardiness: Very good  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: 4,000-11,000’  
Soil Conditions: Coarse and medium textured soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Unimportant  
Possible Disease Problems: Alternate host for White Pine Blister Rust  
Wildlife Value: High  
Seasonal Color: Attractive red fruit  
Miscellany: Native; edible fruit
WILD ROSE

*Rosa acicularis*

- **Growth Form:** Irregular
- **Crown Density:** Open
- **Size:** 4’ high and spreading
- **Drought Resistance:** Good
- **Cold Hardiness:** Excellent
- **Growth Rate:** Rapid
- **Life Span:** Moderate
- **Elevational Range:** to 10,000’
- **Soil Conditions:** Moist
- **Possible Insect Problems:** Leaf Cutter Bees
- **Possible Disease Problems:** Unimportant
- **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

WOOD’S ROSE

*Rosa woodsia*

- **Growth Form:** Irregular
- **Crown Density:** Very dense
- **Size:** to 6’ high; 3-6’ spread
- **Drought Resistance:** Excellent
- **Cold Hardiness:** Excellent
- **Life Span:** Perennial
- **Elevational Range:** to 7,500’
- **Soil Conditions:** Moderately fertile, well-drained; can tolerate clay loam, sandy loam, or sandy soil
- **Potential Insect Problems:** Unimportant
- **Potential Disease Problems:** Powdery Mildew, Leaf Spot, Rust
- **Wildlife Value:** High; benefits birds, small and large mammals, browsers; the rose hips provide a high protein source of food
- **Seasonal Color:** Leaves are hues of red, orange, or purple in the fall
- **Miscellany:** Excellent ornamental plant; showy pink flowers
**ASPEN**

*Populus tremuloides*

Growth Form: Ovoid to columnar  
Crown Density: Open  
Size: 35-50’ high; 20-35’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Poor  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 11,000’  
Possible Insect Problems: Poplar Borer, Scale, Tent Caterpillars, 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

**BUR OAK**

*Quercus macrocarpa*

Growth Form: Globular  
Size: to 75’ high  
Drought Resistance: Excellent  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth rate: Slow  
Life Span: Very long  
Elevational Range: to 7,000’  
Soil Conditions: Tolerates alkaline well  
Possible Insect Problems: Scales, Gall Wasps  
Possible Disease Problems: Unimportant  
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’ high; spreading  
Drought Resistance: Poor  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Short  
Elevational Range: to 9,500’  
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

FREMONT COTTONWOOD

*Populus fremontii*

Growth Form: Spreading  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: 50-90’ high; 35’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Moderate  
Cold Hardiness: Fair  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: 4,000-7,000’  
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 to Western Colorado; not cotton-less
GAMBEL OAK

*Quercus gambelii*

Growth Form: Irregular  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: 4-15’ high; spread variable  
Drought Resistance: Low  
Cold Hardiness: Good  
Growth Rate: Slow  
Life Span: Long  
Elevational Range: 4,100-9,000’  
Soil Conditions: Adapted to coarse and medium textured soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Gall Wasps  
Possible Disease Problems: Anthracnose  
Wildlife Value: Moderate  
Seasonal Color: Not conspicuous  
Miscellany: Native, though can be regarded as weedy in some areas

GOLDEN WILLOW

*Salix alba vitelline*

Growth Form: Globular to spreading  
Crown Density: Moderate  
Size: to 35’ high; to 35’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Poor  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Rapid  
Life Span: Moderate  
Elevational Range: to 8,000’  
Soil Conditions: Tolerates alkaline and salts well  
Possible Insect Problems: Aphids  
Possible Disease Problems: Cytospora Canker, Bacterial Wet Wood  
Wildlife Value: Moderate; benefits song and game birds; food value from buds and twigs  
Seasonal Color: Orange-yellow bark on young growth in winter  
Miscellany: Requires moist soils
GREEN ASH

Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Growth Form: Irregular to elliptical
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 35-75’ high; 15-35’ spread
Drought Resistance: Excellent
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 6,000’
Soil Conditions: Good alkaline tolerance
Possible Insect Problems: Ash Borer, Oyster Shell Scale, Ash Sawfly
Possible Disease Problems: Occasional Powdery Mildew
Wildlife Value: Fair; benefits game and songbirds
Miscellany: Native; does best in sandy loam soils

HACKBERRY

Celtis occidentalis

Growth Form: Globular
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 40-60’ high; 40-60’ spread
Drought Resistance: Very good
Cold Hardiness: Very Good
Growth Rate: Rapid to moderate
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 7,000’
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’ Brooms
Wildlife Value: High; benefits song birds and small mammals
Seasonal Color: Pale lemon-yellow foliage in fall
Miscellany: Native; wood of commercial size
HONEYLOCUST

Gleditsia triacanthos inermis

Growth Form: Irregular, spreading
Crown Density: Open, fine-textured
Size: 35-75’ high; 15-50’ spread
Drought Resistance: Very Good
Cold Hardiness: Very good
Growth rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate to long
Elevational Range: to 7,500’
Possible Insect Problems: Pod Gall Midge, Scale Insects
Possible Disease Problems: Thyronectria Canker, Sunscald, Cytospora Canker
Wildlife Value: Low
Miscellany: Usually thornless

HYBRID COTTONWOOD

Populus deltoides x nigra

Growth Form: Globular to irregular
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 75-100’ high; 50-75’ spread
Drought Resistance: Poor
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 6,500’
Possible Insect Problems: Leaf Miners, Fall Web Worm, Poplar Borers, Oyster Shell Scale
Possible Disease Problems: Cytospora Canker, Bacterial Wet Wood, Marssonina Leaf Blight
Wildlife Value: Fair; nesting and roosting cover
Miscellany: “Norway” male clone will produce flowers; no guarantee on degree of cotton production
KENTUCKY COFFEE TREE

*Gymnocladus dioicus*

*** Part of the plant are poisonous ***

Growth Form: Irregular, oval
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 50-90’ high; 35-45’ spread
Drought Resistance: Moderate
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Slow
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 6,500’
Soil Conditions: Prefers moist soils, yet can tolerate and adapt to drought
Potential Insect Problems: Unimportant
Potential Disease Problems: Unimportant
Wildlife Value: Poor; leaves and seeds are poisonous
Miscellany: Can tolerate a wide range of conditions making it suitable for reclamation sites

LANCELEAF COTTONWOOD

*Populus x acuminata*

Growth Form: Irregular
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 40-60’ high; 25’ spread
Drought Resistance: Low
Cold Hardiness: Good
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: 4,000-8,500’
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
LOMBARDY POPLAR

Populus nigra ‘Italica’

Growth Form: Columnar to ovoid
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: to 40’ high; 10-15’ spread
Drought Resistance: Poor
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Short
Elevational Range: to 8,000’
Soil Conditions: Tolerates alkaline soils, occasional flooding and drought
Possible Insect Problems: Fall Web Worm
Possible Disease Problems: Bacterial Wet Wood, Cytospora Canker, Stem Canker
Wildlife Value: Low
Seasonal Color: Golden yellow Fall foliage
Miscellany: Best for temporary protection only

NARROWLEAF COTTONWOOD

Populus angustifolia

Growth Form: Ovoid to irregular
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: to 50’ high; to 30’ spread
Drought Resistance: Fair
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: 5,000-9,500’
Soil Conditions: Tolerates alkaline well
Possible Insect Problems: Blotchmine Beetle
Possible Disease Problems: Cytospora Canker, Bacterial Wet Wood
Wildlife Value: Moderate; nesting and roosting cover; buds, catkins, and twigs for food value
Seasonal Color: Yellow
Miscellany: Native; very weak wood; suckers profusely
NATIVE WILLOW MIX

*Salix spp.*

Growth Form: Irregular
Crown Density: Dense
Size: to 12’ high; spreading
Drought Resistance: Poor
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 9,500’
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), Strap leaf, and Coyote Willows; suckers and spreads; native; species mix may vary from year to year

NORTHERN CATALPA

*Catalpa speciose*

Growth Form: Oval
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 40-60’ high; 20-40’ spread
Drought Resistance: Good
Cold Hardiness: Good
Growth Rate: Moderate
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 6,000’
Soil Conditions: well adapted to several soil types
Potential Insect Problems: Midge
Potential Disease Problems: Leaf Spot, Powdery Mildew
Wildlife Values: Great; Benefits pollinators
Seasonal Colors: White buds
Miscellany: Produces seedpods
PEACHLEAF WILLOW

Salix amygdaloides

Growth Form: Irregular
Crown Density: Open
Size: to 40’ high
Drought Resistance: Poor
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 9,500’
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, and moose
Seasonal Color: Not conspicuous
Miscellany: Native

PRAIRIE SKY COTTONWOOD

Populus x canadensis ‘Prairie Sky’

Growth Form: Columnar
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: 50’ high; 10’ spread
Drought Tolerance: 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 cotton less
SIBERIAN ELM

*Ulmus pumila*

Growth Form: Irregular
Crown Density: Moderate
Size: to 40’ high; 30-40’ spread
Drought Resistance: Excellent
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 8,000’
Soil Conditions: Tolerates alkaline well
Possible Insect Problems: Elm Leaf Beetle
Possible Disease Problems: Bacterial Wet Wood
Wildlife Value: Moderate; benefits song and game birds (seeds and buds)
Seasonal Color: Dull yellow or tallow green Fall foliage
Miscellany: Brittle wood subjected to breakage

THINLEAF ALDER

*Alnus incana*

Growth Form: Oval
Crown Density: Dense
Size: 10-20’ high; 10-12’ spread
Drought Resistance: Moderate
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Moderate
Life Span: Moderate
Elevational Range: to 10,000’
Soil Conditions: Heavy moist soils
Potential Insect Problems: Green Alder Sawfly
Potential Disease Problems: Armillaria, Root Rot
Wildlife Value: Excellent; leaves and twigs provide food value to browsers; seeds and catkins provide food value for birds
Seasonal Color: Yellow fall foliage
Miscellany: Has a high flood tolerance
WATER BIRCH

*Betula occidentalis*

**Growth Form:** Irregular  
**Crown Density:** Open  
**Size:** to 20’ high  
**Drought Resistance:** Excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** Excellent  
**Growth Rate:** Moderate  
**Life Span:** Moderate  
**Elevational Range:** to 10,000’  
**Soil Conditions:** Prefers moist soils  
**Potential Insect Problems:** Unimportant  
**Potential Disease Problems:** Blight  
**Wildlife Value:** Excellent; benefits browsers; provides cover for birds and small mammals  
**Seasonal Colors:** Inconspicuous  
**Miscellany:** Good for erosion control in riparian areas

AUSTRIAN PINE

*Pinus nigra*

**Growth Form:** Pyramidal  
**Crown Density:** Open  
**Size:** to 40’ high; to 30’ spread  
**Drought Resistance:** Excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** Fair  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Life Span:** Long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,000’  
**Soil Conditions:** Tolerate alkaline well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** Pine Tip Moth  
**Possible Disease Problems:** Fairly resistant  
**Wildlife Value:** High; benefits song and ground birds, food value from seeds  
**Seasonal Color:** Evergreen  
**Miscellany:** Forms a good screen
BOSNIAN PINE

*Pinus heldreichii*

Growth Form: Pyramidal  
Crown Density: Dense  
Size: 25-40’ high; 15-20’ spread  
Drought Resistance: Moderate  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Slow  
Life Span: Long  
Elevational Range: to 7,000’  
Soil Conditions: Prefers moist soils: tolerates dry chalky soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Very resistant  
Possible Disease Problems: Very resistant  
Wildlife Value: Moderate: provides cover for birds  
Seasonal Color: Evergreen  
Miscellany: Compact tree with low maintenance

BRISTLECONE PINE

*Pinus aristata*

Growth Form: Irregular  
Crown Density: Open  
Size: 20-40’ high  
Drought Resistance: Excellent  
Cold Hardiness: Excellent  
Growth Rate: Slow  
Life Span: Long  
Elevational Range: to 11,000’  
Soil Conditions: Rocky alkaline soils  
Possible Insect Problems: Bark Beetles  
Possible Disease Problems: White Pine Blister Rust  
Wildlife Value: High; food value from seeds for upland game and song birds  
Seasonal Color: Evergreen  
Miscellany: Native
COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE

*Picea pungens*

Growth Form: Conical
Crown Density: Dense
Size: 60-100’ high; 15-35’ spread
Drought Resistance: Fair
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Slow
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 9,500’
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; benefits song birds, ground birds, grouse, hoofed and small browsers
Seasonal Color: Bluish evergreen
Miscellany: Native; Colorado’s state tree; high ornamental value

DOUGLAS FIR

*Pseudotsuga menziesii*

Growth Form: Conical to pyramidal
Crown Density: Dense
Size: 70-100’ high; 20-35’ spread
Drought Resistance: Good
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Slow
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: 6,000-9,000’
Possible Insect Problems: Spruce Budworm
Possible Disease Problems: Shoestring Root Rot, Douglas-fir Mistletoe, Bacterial Gall
Wildlife Value: High; food value for grouse, song birds, and small mammals; browse for deer and elk
Seasonal Color: Evergreen
Miscellany: Native
ENGELMANN SPRUCE

*Picea engelmannii*

**Growth Form:** Conical to spire-like  
**Crown Density:** Dense  
**Size:** 70-90’ high; 15-30’ spread  
**Drought Resistance:** Very Good  
**Cold Hardiness:** Excellent  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Life Span:** Long  
**Elevational Range:** 8,000-11,000’  
**Possible Insect Problems:** Spruce Bark Beetle, Spruce Budworm  
**Possible Disease Problems:** Root Rot, Spruce Broom Rust  
**Wildlife Value:** High; food value for grouse and song birds; browse for deer and elk  
**Seasonal Color:** Evergreen  
**Miscellany:** Native; intolerant of direct sun, requires shade

EASTERN RED CEDAR

*Juniperus virginiana*

**Growth Form:** Pyramidal to irregular  
**Crown Density:** Dense  
**Size:** 15-20’ high; 10-20’ spread  
**Drought Resistance:** Excellent  
**Cold Hardiness:** Excellent  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Life Span:** Long  
**Elevational Range:** to 7,500’  
**Soil Conditions:** Tolerates alkaline and salts well  
**Possible Insect Problems:** Spider Mites  
**Possible Disease Problems:** Rust  
**Wildlife Value:** High; benefits song and game birds, hoofed browsers; good cover  
**Seasonal Color:** Rusty red  
**Miscellany:** Very adaptable to site conditions
LIMBER PINE

*Pinus flexilis*

- **Growth Form:** Conical to ovoid
- **Crown Density:** Open
- **Size:** to 35’ high
- **Drought Resistance:** Good
- **Cold Hardiness:** Excellent
- **Growth Rate:** Slow
- **Life Span:** Long
- **Elevational Range:** to 11,000’
- **Soil Conditions:** Well-drained
- **Possible Insect Problems:** Bark Beetles
- **Possible Disease Problems:** Mistletoe
- **Wildlife Value:** High; food value from seeds for upland game and song birds
- **Seasonal Color:** Evergreen
- **Miscellany:** Native

LODGEPOLE PINE

*Pinus contorta*

- **Growth Form:** Conical to spire-like
- **Crown Density:** Open
- **Size:** 35-70’ high; 15-30’ spread
- **Drought Resistance:** Excellent
- **Cold Hardiness:** Excellent
- **Growth Rate:** Slow
- **Life Span:** Long
- **Elevational Range:** 6,000-11,000’
- **Possible Insect Problems:** Mountain Pine Beetle
- **Possible Disease Problems:** Mistletoe, Western Gall Rust
- **Wildlife Value:** High; food value from seeds for upland game and song birds
- **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’ high; 15-30’ spread
Drought Resistance: Excellent
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Slow
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 7,500’
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 song birds
Seasonal Color: Evergreen
Miscellany: Native

PONDEROSA PINE

*Pinus ponderosa*

Growth Form: Conical to ovoid
Crown Density: Moderately dense
Size: 40-100’ high; 15-60’ spread
Drought Resistance: Excellent
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Rapid to moderate
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: to 9,000’
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; benefits song and ground birds, small mammals, and 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' high; 10-35’ spread
- **Drought Resistance**: Excellent
- **Cold Hardiness**: Excellent
- **Growth Rate**: Slow
- **Life Span**: Long
- **Elevational Range**: to 9,000’
- **Soil Conditions**: Excellent alkaline tolerance
- **Possible Insect Problems**: Spider Mites, Bark Beetles
- **Possible Disease Problems**: Juniper Broom Rust, Juniper Gall Rust, Juniper True Mistletoe
- **Wildlife Value**: High; benefits song and ground girds, large browsing mammals
- **Seasonal Color**: Evergreen
- **Miscellany**: Native

SCOTCH PINE

*Pinus sylvestris*

- **Growth Form**: Pyramidal to ovoid
- **Crown Density**: Open
- **Size**: 40-65' high; 20-40’ spread
- **Drought Resistance**: Very good
- **Cold Hardiness**: Very good
- **Growth Rate**: Rapid
- **Life Span**: Long
- **Elevational Range**: to 7,000’
- **Soil Conditions**: Tolerates alkaline
- **Possible Insect Problems**: Tip Moth, Ips
- **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
SOUTHWEST WHITE PINE

*Pinus strobus*

- **Growth Form:** Conical to ovoid
- **Crown Density:** Open
- **Size:** 30-50’ high; 20-30’ spread
- **Drought Resistance:** Excellent
- **Cold Hardiness:** Excellent
- **Growth Rate:** Moderate
- **Life Span:** Long
- **Elevational Range:** to 9,000’
- **Soil Conditions:** Adapted to a wide range of soil conditions
- **Possible Insect Problems:** Bark Beetles
- **Possible Disease Problems:** White Pine Blister Rust
- **Wildlife Value:** High; food value from seeds for upland game and song birds, nesting and roosting cover
- **Seasonal Color:** Evergreen
- **Miscellany:** Native

SUBALPINE FIR

*Abies lasiocarpa*

- **Growth Form:** Conical to spire-like
- **Crown Density:** Moderate
- **Size:** 60-100’ high; 10-20’ spread
- **Drought Resistance:** Poor
- **Cold Hardiness:** Excellent
- **Growth Rate:** Slow
- **Life Span:** Long
- **Elevational Range:** 8,000-11,000’
- **Possible Insect Problems:** Balsam Bark Beetle, Western Spruce Budworm, Fir Engraver
- **Possible Disease Problems:** Armillaria Root Disease, Annosus Root Rot
- **Wildlife Value:** Fair; Benefits grouse, nutcrackers, sapsuckers, deer, elk, moose
- **Seasonal Color:** Distinctive black/purple cones
- **Miscellany:** Native; not suited for lower elevations; requires shade
WHITE FIR

*Abies concolor*

Growth Form: Conical
Crown Density: Dense
Size: 60-100’ high; 20-35’ spread
Drought Resistance: Very good
Cold Hardiness: Excellent
Growth Rate: Slow
Life Span: Long
Elevational Range: 6,000-9,000’
Possible Insect Problems: Spruce Budworm, Douglas-fir Tussock Moth
Possible Disease Problems: Needle Cast, Root Rot
Wildlife Value: Moderate; food source and winter cover for grouse and song birds
Seasonal Color: Bluish evergreen
Miscellany: Native