

Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Shrub Information Sheet

Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*)

Native Range: Eastern United States

Zone: 3-9

Height: 6 – 12 `

Spread: 6 – 12 `

Bloom Time: June to July

Bloom Color: Greenish-white

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium to wet

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Hedge, rain garden

Flower: Insignificant

Fruit: Showy

Tolerate: Erosion, Clay soil, wet soil, pollution



Culture

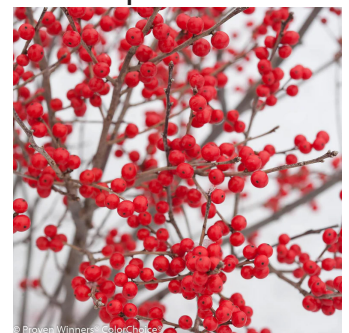
Easily grown in average, acidic, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Adaptable to both light and heavy soils, but prefers moist, acidic, organic loams. Good tolerance for poorly drained soils including wet boggy or swampy conditions (this species is native to swampy areas of Eastern North America). Winterberries are dioecious (separate male and female plants). Only fertilized female flowers will produce the attractive red berries that are the signature of the species. Generally one male winterberry will be sufficient for pollinating 6-10 female plants. Flowers appear on new growth. Prune to shape in early spring just before new growth appears.

Noteworthy Characteristics

A deciduous holly that is native to eastern North America, it typically occurs in swamps, damp thickets, low woods and along ponds and streams. This is a slow-growing, deciduous shrub with an upright-rounded habit that typically grows 6-12' tall. Mature specimens in the wild can reach upwards of 15'. Often suckers to form large thickets or colonies. Elliptic to obovate, toothed, dark green leaves (2-3" long). Fall color is usually negligible, but in some years leaves may turn attractive shades of maroon. Relatively inconspicuous greenish-white flowers appear in the leaf axils in late spring. Flowers, if properly pollinated, give way to a crop of bright red berries (1/4" diameter) in late summer to fall. Berries are quite showy and will persist throughout the winter (hence the common name) and often into early spring. Berries provide considerable impact and interest to the winter landscape.

Uses

Year round interest, highlighted by the showy display of red berries in winter. Mass or group in shrub borders, foundations, native plant areas or bird gardens. Hedge. Excellent shrub for moist soils in low spots or along streams and ponds.



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Shrub Information Sheet

Bottlebrush Buckeye

(*Aesculus parviflora*)

Native Range: Eastern United States

Zone: 4-8

Height: 8 – 12 `

Spread: 8 – 15 `

Bloom Time: June to July

Bloom Color: White w/red anthers

Sun: Part to full shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Naturalize, Rain Garden

Flower: Showy

Fruit: Showy

Tolerate: Rabbit, Deer, Erosion, Wet Soil



Culture

Easily grown in average, evenly moist, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade. Prefers rich, moist loams. Intolerant of dry soils, particularly in the early years before its root system becomes well established. Pruning is usually unnecessary. Though native to rich woodland areas in Alabama, Georgia and northern Florida, it is winter hardy throughout USDA Zone 5.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Noted for being one of the best summer-flowering shrubs for shade areas. It is a dense, mounded, suckering, deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub which typically grows 6-12' tall. Features palmate green leaves (5-7 leaflets) and erect, showy, cylindrical panicles (to 12" long) of tubular white flowers with conspicuous red anthers and pinkish filaments. Mid-summer bloom can be spectacular. Flowers give way to glossy inedible, pear-shaped nuts (buckeyes) encased in husks, however these nuts are infrequently produced in cultivation in the northern parts of this shrub's growing range. Foliage turns yellow in autumn.

Uses

Excellent lawn specimen. Group or mass in shrub borders or woodland areas.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Shrub Information Sheet

Blackhaw Viburnum

(*Viburnum prunifolium*)

Native Range: Eastern North America

Zone: 3-9

Height: 12 – 15 `

Spread: 6 – 12 `

Bloom Time: May to June

Bloom Color: White

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Dry to Medium

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Hedge

Flower: Showy

Leaf: Good fall

Attracts: Birds & butterflies

Tolerate: Drought, Clay Soil, Black Walnut, Urban Conditions



Culture

Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerates drought. Prune immediately after flowering since flower buds form in summer for the following year.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Viburnum prunifolium, commonly called black haw, is usually grown as a large, upright, multi-stemmed, deciduous shrub with an irregular crown, but it also may be grown as a small, single trunk tree. As a shrub, it typically grows 12-15' tall with a spread of 6-12', but as a tree may reach a height of 30'. A Pennsylvania native plant which commonly occurs in moist woods, thickets and on streambanks throughout the State. Non-fragrant white flowers in flat-topped cymes (to 4.5" diameter) appear in spring. Flowers give way in autumn to blue-black, berry-like drupes which often persist into winter and are quite attractive to birds and wildlife. Ovate, finely toothed, glossy dark green leaves (to 4" long) turn attractive shades of red and purple in fall. Fruits are edible and may be eaten off the bush when ripe or used in jams and preserves.

Uses

Small specimen tree or large specimen shrub. Shrub borders. Tall hedge or screen. Incorporate into the background of a native planting.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Tree Information Sheet

Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)

Native Range: Eastern United States

Zone: 5-9

Height: 15 – 30'

Spread: 15 – 30'

Bloom Time: April to May

Bloom Color: Purple

Sun: Part to full shade

Water: Medium to wet

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Rain Garden

Flower: Fragrant, Insignificant

Fruit: Showy, Edible

Tolerate: Wet Soil, Black Walnut



Culture

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, acidic, fertile soils. Will grow in shade but becomes leggy.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Asimina triloba, commonly called pawpaw, is a native small understory tree or large shrub which typically grows 15-20' tall (sometimes to 30') and occurs in low bottom woods, wooded slopes, ravines and along streams. Often spreads by root suckers to form colonies or thickets. Large, slightly drooping, elliptical, medium green leaves (6-12" long) retain green color well into fall before turning to a bright (but sometimes undistinguished) yellow. Cup-shaped, purple flowers (3 green sepals and 6 purple petals in two tiers) appear in spring, and give way to edible, oblong, yellowish green fruits which mature in early autumn to a dark brown. Flavor and fleshy consistency of the sweet-flavored fruits resembles bananas. Fruits are frequently eaten raw or used in ice creams or pies, although they can produce nausea in some people. Wildlife (e.g., raccoons, squirrels and opossums) eagerly seek out the fruits and often beat humans to the harvest. Early Americans made a yellow dye from the pulp of the ripened fruit.

Uses

Naturalize in a native plant or wild garden, or grow in a shrub border or woodland margin. Effective in damp areas along ponds or streams.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Tree Information Sheet

Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*)

Native Range: Eastern North America

Zone: 3-7

Height: 15 – 25 ´

Spread: 20 – 32 ´

Bloom Time: May to June

Bloom Color: Yellowish-white

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium to wet

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Flowering tree

Flower: Showy, fragrant

Tolerate: Deer, black walnut



Culture

Best grown in acidic, organically rich, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Some afternoon shade is appreciated in hot summer climates such as the St. Louis area. Best performance occurs in cool summer climates. Provide consistent moisture and mulch root zone.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Cornus alternifolia is a small deciduous tree or large multi-stemmed shrub that typically grows 15-25' tall with distinctive tiered/layered horizontal branching which is upward-turned at the tips. It is native to both moist and dry forests, forest margins, stream banks and fields from Newfoundland to Minnesota south to northern Arkansas and through the Appalachians to Georgia and Alabama. Small, fragrant, yellowish-white flowers bloom in flattened cymes (each to 2 1/2" across) in late spring (May-June). Flowers give way to bluish-black fruits (drupes) on red stalks. Fruits mature in late summer. Elliptic-ovate, medium green leaves (to 3-5" long) turn reddish-purple often tinted yellow or green in fall. Although the leaves of most species of dogwood are opposite, those of pagoda dogwood are alternate, hence the specific epithet and often used common name of alternate-leaf dogwood.

Uses

Plant as a specimen or in small groupings on residential property around homes, near patios or in lawns. Also effective in shrub borders, woodland gardens, bird gardens or naturalized areas.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Shrub Information Sheet

Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)

Native Range: Eastern United States

Zone: 3-9

Height: 20-30 `

Spread: 15-25 `

Bloom Time: April to June

Bloom Color: White

Sun: Full sun to shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

Flower: Insignificant

Fruit: Showy

Tolerate: drought, clay



Culture

Chokecherry is remarkably shade tolerant and has impressive resilience under variable growing conditions.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Prunus virginiana is a large native deciduous shrub or a small tree. Growing in the wild, it can form thickets, which can become very dense. The spread can originate from the shallow, spreading root system that may form additional plants from the lengthy underground runners. In the wild, it can be found growing in multiple growing conditions in woodlands, ravines, slopes, thickets, and open fields.

Dense clusters of white flowers are followed by red fruit ripening to dark purple from August to September.

As the common name suggests, chokecherries are astringent or puckery, especially when immature or raw; but they can be made into preserves and jelly.

It is widely regarded as an important wildlife food plant and provides habitat, watershed protection, and species diversity.

Uses

Blooms ornamental, Showy, Fruits ornamental, Erosion control, Understory tree



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Tree Information Sheet

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

Native Range: Eastern North America

Zone: 4-8

Height: 20 – 30 `

Spread: 20 – 35 `

Bloom Time: April

Bloom Color: Pink

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Flowering tree, street tree, naturalize

Flower: Showy

Leaf: Good fall

Attracts: Butterflies

Tolerate: Clay soil, deer, black walnut



Culture

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Part shade is best in hot summer climates. Performs best in moderately fertile soils with regular and consistent moisture. Avoid wet or poorly drained soils. Since this tree does not transplant well, it should be planted when young and left undisturbed.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Cercis canadensis, commonly called eastern redbud, is a deciduous, often multi-trunked understory tree with a rounded crown that typically matures to 20-30' tall with a slightly larger spread. It is particularly noted for its stunning pea-like rose-purple flowers which bloom profusely on bare branches in early spring (March-April) before the foliage emerges. This tree is native to eastern and central North America. Flowers (to ½" wide) bloom in clusters of 4-10. Flowers are followed by flattened leguminous bean-like dry seedpods (2-4" long) that mature to brown in summer. Each pod has 6-12 seeds. Pods may remain on the tree into winter. Leaves turn pale yellow to greenish-yellow in fall.

Uses

Specimen or small groups. Lawns, shrub borders, woodland margins, or along patios. Street tree or lawn tree. Attractive in naturalized settings.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Tree Information Sheet

American Hophornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)

Native Range: Eastern North America

Zone: 3-9

Height: 25 – 40'

Spread: 20 – 30'

Sun: Part to full shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Shade Tree, Street Tree

Flower: Insignificant

Leaf: Good fall color

Attracts: Songbirds, caterpillars

Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Clay Soil



Culture

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in part to full shade.

Noteworthy Characteristics

A deciduous native tree which usually occurs in dry soils on rocky slopes, upland woods and bluffs it is a small to medium-sized, understory tree with a generally rounded crown. Features birch-like, oval to lance-shaped, sharply-serrated, dark yellowish-green leaves (to 5" long). Leaves turn yellow in autumn. It does not demand much light and prefers a partial to deep shade. It tolerates drought and heavy clay soils making it low maintenance and appropriate for urban settings.

Showy, shaggy bark provides winter interest. Provides essential food and cover for wildlife. Its buds, catkins, and seeds are consumed by songbirds and small mammals, while its foliage supports specialized caterpillars.

Uses

Lawn tree, street tree or woodland garden.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Tree Information Sheet

Black Gum or Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

Native Range: Eastern North America

Zone: 3-9

Height: 30 – 50 `

Spread: 20 – 30 `

Bloom Time: May to June

Bloom Color: Greenish white

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium to wet

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Shade tree, street tree, rain garden

Flower: Insignificant

Leaf: Good fall

Attracts: Birds

Tolerate: Clay soil, wet soil, black walnut



Culture

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, acidic soils. Tolerates poorly-drained soils and can grow in standing water. On the other end of the spectrum, tolerates some drought and adapts to some dryish soils. Long taproot precludes moving established trees.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Nyssa sylvatica, known as Black Gum or Tupelo tree, is a slow-growing, deciduous, native tree which occurs in a wide range of soils. It is primarily a lowland tree found in low wet woods, bottomlands and pond peripheries, but also can be found on dry rocky wooded slopes and ravines. A stately tree with a straight trunk and rounded crown (more pyramidal when young) that typically grows 30-50' tall. Small, greenish-white flowers appear in spring on long stalks (female flowers in sparse clusters and male flowers in dense heads). Although flowers are not showy, they are an excellent nectar source for bees. Fruits mature to a dark blue and are attractive to birds and wildlife. Spectacular scarlet fall color.

Uses

Excellent ornamental shade tree for lawns or street tree. Also grows well in moist woodland gardens or naturalized areas or in low spots subject to periodic flooding or in boggy areas. Although slow-growing, it still needs to be sited in an area which affords plenty of room for future growth, particularly since it is so difficult to transplant.



Lower Gwynedd Township, Fall 2026

Tree Information Sheet

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)

Native Range: Eastern and Central North America

Zone: 3-9

Height: 40 – 70 `

Spread: 30 – 50 `

Bloom Time: March to April

Bloom Color: Red (sometimes yellow)

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium to wet

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Shade tree, street tree, rain garden

Flower: Showy

Leaf: Good fall

Attracts: Bees, birds, squirrels and other wildlife by providing food, shade and nesting habitat

Tolerate: Wet soils, black walnut, air pollution



Culture

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, but prefers moist, slightly acid conditions. Very cold hardy.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Acer rubrum, commonly called red maple, is a medium-sized, deciduous tree that is native to Eastern North America from Quebec to Minnesota south to Florida and eastern Texas. It typically grows 40-60' tall with a rounded to oval crown. Emerging new growth leaves, leafstalks, twigs, flowers, fruit and fall color are red or tinged with red. Quality of red fall color on species plants is variable. Flowers on a given tree are primarily male or female and appear in late winter to early spring (March) before the leaves. Fruit is a two-winged samara.

Uses

Plant as a specimen tree for the lawn, street or park.

