

PATIO TREES



So you don't want the size of a full-grown tree, but you still want the tree-like shape? Take a look at patio trees! This is a category of plants that will maintain a more manageable size for a smaller-scaled area. For maintenance, all you need to do is remove the occasional sprout from the base, or trim lightly for shape.

Variegated Red-twig Dogwood

Cornus alba 'Argenteo-marginata' and *C. alba* 'Elegantissima'

8'-10' Red-twig dogwoods brighten the winter landscape with bright red stems. Foliage is green with a white edge. Clusters of small white blooms, followed by white berries. Tolerates heavy or continuously wet soils.

Rose-of-Sharon

Hibiscus syriacus, multiple cultivars

10'-12' Rose-of-Sharon blooms through late summer with large pink, white, or violet flowers (depending on variety). Foliage is green, going to a yellow fall color. Clay tolerant, does best in hot, full sun areas.

Panicked Hydrangea

Hydrangea paniculata

10'-12' Large cone-shaped clusters of white flowers which age to pink shades. Blooms late summer-fall. Foliage is green.

'Zuni' Crape-myrtle

Lagerstroemia indica 'Zuni'

10'-12' Large clusters of dark lavender crepe-papery blooms in late summer; orange-red fall color. Attractive exfoliating bark. A heat-lover, this plant may leaf out as late as May, and blooms heaviest in hot, sunny locations.

'Golden Lanterns' Himalayan Honeysuckle

Leycesteria formosa 'Golden Lanterns'

6'-8' Gold foliage and upright arching stems. Small pinkish tubular blooms are followed by dark red berries clustered in a hanging chain. Would prefer light afternoon shade to retain best color.

Waxleaf Privet

Ligustrum texanum

10'-12' A tough evergreen with glossy dark green foliage. Clusters of airy white flowers in early summer are fragrant and attract pollinating insects. Clip occasionally for dense growth.

'Diablo' Ninebark

Physocarpus opulifolius 'Diablo'

10'-12' Rich burgundy foliage flares up a brilliant scarlet in the fall. Clusters of pink buds open to creamy white flowers in summer. Attractive peeling striped bark.

Portugal Laurel

Prunus lusitanica

10'-12' Dark green foliage is highlighted in late spring with finger-like clusters of white blooms. Keeping this evergreen small will require some regular clipping.

King Edward Red-flowering Currant

Ribes sanguineum 'King Edward VII'

8'-10' This cultivar of the native red flowering currant has a darker red buds, opening to a deep scarlet bloom. Dark blue berries develop after flowering. Great for attracting hummingbirds!

Weeping Pussy Willow

Salix caprea 'Pendula'

10' Late winter brings puffy catkins which are actually flower clusters. Weeping habit and small stature make this tree perfect for accenting small areas. Green summer leaves are deciduous.

Dappled Willow

Salix integra 'Hakuro Nishiki'

10' Salmon-pink new foliage unfolds, becoming dappled white and pink, then maturing green. Color variegation persists into summer. Tolerates saturated and heavy soils.

Blue Arctic Willow

Salix purpurea 'Nana'

6'-8' Delicate branching and fine bluish foliage give a feathery appearance to this beauty. Yellow fall color, and dark purple twigs in winter. Like many willows, this one tolerates heavy soils.

'Black Lace' Elderberry

Sambucus nigra 'Black Lace'

8'-10' Finely cut purple-black foliage is reminiscent of a Japanese maple. Large flat clusters of light pink flowers in summer followed by clusters of black elderberries.

'Tinkerbelle' Dwarf Lilac

Syringa x 'Tinkerbelle'

6'-8' Fragrant wine-colored buds reveal pale pink flowers in an open cluster. Small ovate leaves and a compact growth habit make this lilac suitable for even the smallest area.

Other suggestions:

We have a wide selection of dwarf conifers, topiary conifers, and dwarf Japanese maples.