

## Choose the best native tree for your Florida yard!

*Be sure to follow the watering schedule to establish your beautiful tree: 2 weeks everyday, 2 weeks every other day, and 2 weeks every third day, and then CONTINUE TO WATER regularly ONCE A WEEK FOR THE FIRST YEAR.*

**Deciduous Trees:** When Autumn arrives and the days are shorter, deciduous trees decrease chlorophyll pigment production. This is why the leaves will change color. The tree is healthy; it's just going dormant for the winter. Its root system will continue to grow underground so be sure your newly planted tree gets a good watering at least once a week during this time!

**Sweetgum-** We love this tree! Fast-growing. Beautiful, star-shaped leaves for fantastic shade! Symmetrical shape, with branches growing upward rather than outward. Can produce a lot of shade in a confined area! Crush a leaf, smell, and you'll see why it's called a "sweet" gum tree! Leaves turn orange in the fall.

**Florida Elm-** Another great fast-growing shade tree. Branches grow up and out to produce a sweeping, broad canopy, small leaves that turn yellow in the fall.

**Bald Cypress-** Grows in a symmetrical cone shape, soft small needles that turn orange in the fall. Can tolerate wet areas but doesn't NEED to be in water! Soft, smooth bark.

**Pignut Hickory-** A large, strong tree. Bright green leaves turn a delightful yellow color in fall. It is an impressive shade tree and provides some of the most sought-after food for the local wildlife. Peach-shaped nut that is thick-walled and encased in a thin husk that only splits halfway open which resembles a pig's snout; hence, "pignut" hickory.

**Red Maple-** A beautiful shade tree that will have a broad canopy. Deciduous; leaves turn red in the fall (and are red when first appearing, too). Prefers moist areas so be sure to keep it watered during our dry winter seasons!

**Sycamore-** The largest deciduous tree in North America. Interesting, mottled bark, large leaves.

**Sugarberry-** Fast growing shade tree with interesting, knobby bark; attracts wildlife, especially birds!

## **Evergreen Trees**

**Southern Red Cedar-** Does well in any soil. Small, prickly needles, conical shape. Known as the "Florida Christmas Tree". Branches go down to the ground, providing for privacy and an excellent wind buffer. Great for wildlife. Can grow to 20-25 ft. tall.

**Dahoon Holly-** Smooth, supple, shiny dark green, evergreen leaves. Nice little tree for small yards. The berries serve as an excellent food source for wildlife. Can reach a maturity height of 20 feet.

**Southern Slash Pine** – Very fast growing, along with the Longleaf pine, makes up the majority of Florida's tree canopy! Over 11 different species of birds will call a pine tree "home"!

**Longleaf Pine-** Medium growth rate, grows needles up to 18" long, can live to over 300 years!

Compiled by People for Trees, Inc. Since 1997, a non-profit native tree advocacy group.

Embrace the natural beauty of Florida --- plant a native tree!

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