

Wissahickon Restoration Volunteers - Gorgas Creek Riparian Planting Project

Summary of Species Planted

January – November 2005

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity	Mature Height	Wetland Indicator	Wildlife Benefits/ Ecological Value *	Comments
SRHUBS						
<i>Alnus serrulata</i> †	speckled alder	24	18'	OBL	W, B, BFL, EC (High wildlife value)	Thicket-like cover for birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Harvester butterfly larvae are often found on alders feeding on woolly aphids. Male catkins are eaten by birds in springtime.
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> †	serviceberry	15	6-20'	FAC	W, B, BE	The small apple like fruits are eaten by a variety of wildlife, including songbirds, squirrels and foxes. Deer and rabbits reported to browse twigs. Nectar source for early season solitary bees.
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> †	red chokeberry	15	6-10'	FACW	W, B	Fall fruits eaten by ruffed grouse, pheasants, and songbirds.
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> †	black chokeberry	5	3-6'	FAC	W, B	Fall fruits are eaten by songbirds.
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> †	sweetpepper bush	2	6-12'	FAC+	B, HB, BFL	The fragrant white flowers and nectar of coastal sweet pepperbush attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Birds eat the fruit. Deer eat it only when other forage vegetation is limited.
<i>Cornus amomum</i> †	silky dogwood	15	6-10'	FACW	W, B, EC (High wildlife value)	Blue fruits are important food during the later summer and early fall for birds, skunks, deer, rabbits and squirrels. Used to stabilize moist slopes and banks.
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	witch-hazel	22	30-30'	FAC-	W, B	The seeds, buds, and twigs are important to birds, whitetail deer, rabbits, and beaver. These shrubs can also provide cover for mammals and songbirds.
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> †	winterberry	15	6-12'	FACW+	W, B (High wildlife value)	Fruits persist into winter and are valuable food for many birds, including eastern bluebirds, mockingbirds, American robins, brown thrashers, cedar waxwings, and wild turkeys. Raccoons and fox will also eat the fruits. Deer will browse the foliage, especially in winter.
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	spicebush	20	16'	FACW	W, B, BF, BFL (High wildlife value)	Deer, songbirds, pheasants and others eat the twigs and fruit. Larval host plant for spicebush and tiger swallowtails as well as the promethea moth. Fruits (high in fats) are important food for over 20 species of songbirds, especially for many during fall migration.
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> †	ninebark	12		FACW	W, B	Flowers of Atlantic ninebark are an excellent nectar source, and the fruits are eaten by many species of birds.
<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i> †	swamp azalea	13	5-8'	FACW+	W, B	The flowers attract hummingbirds.
<i>Sambucus Canadensis</i> †	American elderberry	15	5-12'	FACW	W, B, BF, EC (High wildlife value)	Ripe fruits are eaten by small mammals and 48 species of birds in late summer and fall. Flowers attract butterflies. Various bees and wasps hollow out the pith in dead stems to lay eggs or seek shelter. American elder is outstanding as nesting cover for small birds.
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i> †	southern arrow-wood	17	6-12'	FAC	W, B (High wildlife value)	Fruits eaten by fox, chipmunk, bluebird, cedar waxwing, and mockingbird.
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> †	black-haw	12	24'	FACU	W, B (High wildlife value)	Fruits eaten by songbirds, bobwhites, and foxes.
TREES						
<i>Acer rubrum</i> †	red maple	18	40-60'	FACW	W, B	Seeds, buds, and flowers provide food for many kinds of birds and other animals. The species is not preferred by deer, so in heavy deer pressure this species is over abundant in forest regeneration.
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	silver maple	25	50-75'	FACW	W, B	Seeds, buds, and flowers provide food for many kinds of birds and other animals.
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple	15	60-75'	FACU	W, B, BE (High wildlife value)	Seeds, buds, twigs and leaves are food for birds and small mammals in summer and fall. White-tailed deer commonly browse sugar maple. Songbirds, woodpeckers, and cavity nesters nest in sugar maple.
<i>Betula nigra</i> †	river birch	15	40-70'	FACW	W, B, EC (High wildlife value)	Excellent species for erosion control on moist sites. Ruffed grouse and wild turkey eat the seeds. Bark peels off young trees in thin, papery layers and is used by birds and small mammals in nest construction and den insulation. Squirrels and small mammals (and some birds) eat the flowers and fruits.

<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	hornbeam, ironwood	17	30'	FAC	W, B	The fruits are utilized for food by many birds and small mammals, especially gray squirrels. Deer will browse the twigs.
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> †	hackberry	8	40-60'	FACU	W, B, BFL (High wildlife value)	Host for butterfly larva.
<i>Cornus florida</i>	flowering dogwood	15	35-50'	FACU-	W, B, BFL (High wildlife value)	Small mammals and over 75 species of birds eat the fruits during fall and early winter. Twigs and leaves eaten by deer, rabbits and beavers. Hostplant for spring azure butterfly.
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American beech	10		FACU	W, B (High wildlife value)	Nuts are consumed by woodpeckers, turkey, ruffed grouse, black bear, deer, gray and red squirrels, and other small mammals. Deer will browse on coppice growth.
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	white ash	12	50-80'	FACU	W, B	Fruits are eaten by some birds and small mammals in fall and winter. Deer and rabbits browse young plants.
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	green ash	15	50-60'	FACW	W, B	Fruit also eaten by birds and small mammals
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	black walnut	10	50-75'	FACU	W, BFL	Squirrels feed on the sweet meat of the nut, which is rich in fats. Cecropia moth caterpillars feed on walnut leaves, and the larvae of the walnut sphinx moth feed on leaves.
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> †	sourgum, tupelo	15	90'	FAC	W, B, BE (High wildlife value)	Fruits serve as an important source of food mast for a variety of birds and mammals. Black bears, opossums, raccoons and gray fox will all climb to reach the fruits. Provides cavity and nesting sites for a variety of birds and mammals and a good honey tree.
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	American sycamore	30	70- 100'	FACW-	W, B	American goldfinches and other seed eating birds eat the seeds during winter. The hollows in larger trees are "hideouts" and nesting/resting places for many species of wildlife.
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	black cherry	12	50-60'	FACU	W, B, HB, BFL (High wildlife value)	Deer and rabbits will browse twigs in early spring. The small fruits are important food for many birds (dozens of species) and mammals (bears, squirrels, opossums, raccoons, foxes and mice) in summer. This plant is also a food source for the tiger swallowtail, coral hairstreak, red-spotted purple butterfly caterpillars, as well as larvae of dozens of other moths and butterflies. Eastern tent caterpillars often build web-like tents in the crotches of Black Cherry.
<i>Quercus alba</i>	white oak	13	90'	FACU	W, B, BFL (High wildlife value)	The persistent leaves and the flaking bark provide lots of hiding spots for various arthropods that winter birds can feed on during cold times. The annual acorns are important food for a wide variety of birds and mammals including: deer, black bear, wild boar squirrels, wild turkey, woodpeckers, and blue jays. Bats seek cover under the large flaking bark strips. Several duskywing skippers utilize oak species as hostplants as does the polyphemus moth.
<i>Quercus bicolor</i> †	swamp white oak	21	50-60'	FACW+	W, B (High wildlife value)	The acorns are sweet and are an important winter food for wildlife such as squirrels, mice, white-tailed deer, beaver, black bear, and a variety of birds, including ducks and turkey.
<i>Quercus palustris</i> †	pin oak	15	60-70'	FACW	W, B (High wildlife value)	Many wildlife species eat the acorns throughout the fall and winter.
<i>Quercus phellos</i> †	willow oak	12	40-60'	FAC+	W, B (High wildlife value)	A variety of wildlife eat the acorns such as: deer, black bear, turkey, squirrels, woodpeckers, nuthatches and blue jays and tufted titmice. Grackles, flickers, mice and flying squirrels utilize the tree itself.
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	red oak	20	60-75'	FACU-	W, B, BFL (High wildlife value)	Squirrels, deer, black bear, wild turkey, woodpeckers, blue jays and other wildlife utilize the acorns as food.
<i>Salix nigra</i> †	black willow	10	30-50'	FACW+	W, B, BFL, EC (High wildlife value)	Excellent streambank stabilizer; spreads by suckers. Preferred food of ruffed grouse and pine grosbeak. Many birds will eat the flowers in spring and fruits later in the season. Willows are also a principle food source for Viceroy butterflies.
*Food and/or cover provided for; W = wildlife, B = birds, BF = butterflies, BFL = butterfly larva, BE = bees, HB = hummingbirds. EC = erosion control						
†Not established at the site prior to planting.						