

Trees Currently Offered by Scenic Texas

After consulting with the Texas Forest Service and arborists from all over Texas, for the year 2021 we are able to offer the following trees. Please take a look at our list and choose the species you would like to plant. Our source for these descriptions is the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center [plant database](#).

Chinquapin Oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)

A tree with light gray platy or scaly bark and smooth, gray twigs changing to brown on the current year's leaf-bearing growth. Leaves up to 8 inches long and 4 1/2 inches wide with their widest part nearer the apex than the base. Larger leaves broadly rounded from the widest part to the apex and tapered to the base, the smaller ones narrower, leaf margins shallowly lobed or coarsely toothed, each lobe or tooth with a minute tip; the upper surface smooth, with a sheen, the lower surface dull. Flowers inconspicuous in narrow clusters. Fruit an acorn up to 1 inch long and 3/4 inch wide.

The common name refers to the resemblance of the foliage to chinkapins (*Castanea*), while the Latin species name honors Henry Ernst Muehlenberg (1753-1815), a Pennsylvania botanist. Chinkapin oak can be separated from [Q. prinoides](#) on the same site by its single stem and sparse acorn production.

Growing Conditions

Water Use: Medium

Light Requirement: Sun, Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Dry

Soil pH: Alkaline (pH>7.2)

CaCO3 Tolerance: High

Soil Description: Rocky or sandy soils. This oak species is localized throughout its range and seems dependent upon soil type and a pH above 6.0.

Conditions Comments: This very attractive tree is relatively fast growing and relatively free of diseases and pests. Attractive fall color. Does best in well-drained soil and adapts to many different soil types. Grows in full sun. This tree weathered the freeze of 2021 very well.

Warning: POISONOUS PARTS: Acorns (seeds of nuts) and young leaves. Low toxicity if eaten. Symptoms include stomach pain, constipation and later bloody diarrhea, excessive thirst and urination.

Attracts: Birds, Butterflies, Hummingbirds

Larval Host: Gray Hairstreak

Deer Resistant: No

Fruit Type: Nut

Size Notes: Medium to large tree 45 - 110 feet (19.8 - 33.5 m).

Leaf: Leaves shiny dark green above, light green with minute pubescence below.

Autumn Foliage: yes

Fruit: Acorns annual



Chinquapin Oak

Monterrey Oak (*Quercus polymorpha*)

Native from Val Verde County in west Texas south through Mexico to Guatemala, Monterrey Oak is resistant to oak wilt and is a hardy evergreen oak tree spreading to 60' feet wide as it matures and a height of 80'.

Growing Conditions

Water Use: Medium

Light Requirement: Sun, Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Moist

Conditions Comments: This species is widespread in Mexico and found in a few west Texas canyons. It is a relatively fast-growing oak, and practically evergreen in Austin. It is more resistant to oak wilt and other diseases and pests than other oaks.

Duration: Perennial

Leaf Retention: Semi-evergreen

Breeding System: Flowers Unisexual, Monoecious

Inflorescence: Catkin

Size Class: 36-72 ft.



Chinese Pistache (*Pistaci chinensis*)

Chinese Pistache grows quickly in full sun to partial shade on moderately fertile, well-drained soils and will withstand heat and drought extremely well. The crown is quite round and symmetrical on older specimens when grown in full sun but becomes misshapen in too much shade - best for full sun areas. Grows in clay, loam, or sand in a wide range of soil pH. Provides good fall color, with leaves turning beautiful shades of orange and red. Features lustrous dark green leaves that are around 10" long and compound, commonly with 10–12 (sometimes as many as 20) leaflets.

Growing Conditions

Water Use: Medium

Light Requirement: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Dry is preferred; soils that remain soggy will promote Texas root rot which will kill the tree.

CaCO₃ Tolerance: Low

Cold Tolerant: yes

Soil Description: acidic, alkaline, loamy, moist, sandy, silty loam, well-drained and clay soils. It also grows well in drought conditions.

Conditions Comments: This is an ornamental tree, typically planted for the visual interest and beauty it can bring to landscape. Young trees may need to be staked as they can be spindly in appearance until well established. Light pruning may be necessary to create an attractive, even canopy.

Duration: Perennial

Fruit: None, but the seeds provide food for small rodents and birds while the flowers provide food for insects.

Leaf Retention: Deciduous

Size Notes: About 25-35 feet tall at maturity



Cedar Elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*)

Cedar elm is a large, oval-rounded tree growing 50-70 ft. high and 40-60 ft. wide. Bark is scaly and the drooping branches have corky ridges. Dark-green leaves are small and rough-textured. Leaves much smaller than those of the American Elm, Fall foliage is yellow except in the southern part of the range where it is evergreen. Tree with rounded crown of drooping branches and the smallest leaves of any native elm.

The common native elm in east Texas where it is planted for shade. Called Cedar Elm because of the rough, cedar scale-like texture of the leaves and because it is often found in the western part of its range with Ashe Juniper ([*Juniperus ashei*](#)), which is locally called "cedar." The Latin species name means "thick leaf."

Growing Conditions

Water Use: Medium

Light Requirement: Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Moist

CaCO₃ Tolerance: Low

Cold Tolerant: yes

Soil Description: Moist to dry, alkaline soils. Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam Clay Loam, Clay, Caliche type, Limestone-based

Conditions Comments: Cedar elm is a nicely-proportioned, hardy, drought tolerant shade tree for a broad range of soil types. It brings vivid yellow color to the landscape in autumn. No need to rake the small leaves—they compost nicely. Young trees have corky "wings" on their branches. The Mourning Cloak and Question Mark butterflies use it for larval food. Withstands drought and heavy, infertile soils. Susceptible to Dutch elm disease. Reasonably fast-growing. Known to cause severe allergy reactions.

Leaf Retention: Deciduous

Size Notes: 30-60 feet tall

