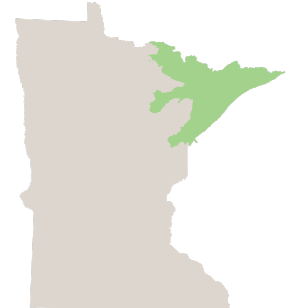


Northern Superior Uplands

Recommended trees for northeast Minnesota

As Minnesota's climate changes, forests will face pressures from tree diseases and pests, heavier and more frequent rainfalls, warmer temperatures, and prolonged drought. You can foster a healthy, resilient forest by planting species that are predicted to adapt well to changes in climate.



The following species are most likely to do well in the future climate of the **Northern Superior Uplands** and recommended for woodlands of less than 20 acres.

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Soil preference	Light requirement
Red maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	55 ft.	Acidic, evenly-moist	Full to part sun
Sugar maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	80 ft.	Evenly-moist, well-drained	Full to part sun
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	30 ft.	Adaptable	Sun to part shade
Yellow birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	45 ft.	Deep, well-drained loam	Part to full shade
Sweet birch	<i>Betula lenta</i>	50 ft.	Acidic, evenly-moist	Full sun
Paper birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	60 ft.	Wide range of acidic soils	Sun to part shade
American hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	20–35 ft.	Average to moist soil	Part to full shade
Bitternut hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	75 ft.	Evenly-moist	Full to part sun
Shagbark hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	80 ft.	Dry, sandy or rocky	Full to part sun
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	75 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Eastern redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	30 ft.	Evenly-moist, well-drained	Full to part sun
Pagoda dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	18 ft.	Acidic, evenly-moist	Full to part sun
Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	60 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Black walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	60 ft.	Evenly-moist	Full sun
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	60–100 ft.	Well-drained	Full to part sun
Bigleaf magnolia	<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i>	30–40 ft.	Moist, well-drained loam	Sun to part shade
Ironwood	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	65 ft.	Well-drained	Part sun
White pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	80 ft.	Evenly-moist	Full to part sun

↳ Continued

Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	75–100 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	90 ft.	Adaptable	Full to part sun
Quaking aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	60 ft.	Dry to moist, sandy	Sun to part shade
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	25 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	75 ft.	Well-drained	Full sun
Swamp white oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	60 ft.	Evenly-moist	Full to part sun
Bur oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	75 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Chinkapin oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	30–60 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Chestnut oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>	60 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Northern red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	80 ft.	Tolerates dry	Full to part sun
Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	90 ft.	Adaptable	Full sun
Eastern hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	40 ft.	Well-drained	Full sun

Rewilding your backyard woods

Of the 206,000 family forests in Minnesota, roughly half are less than 10 acres in size. These small woodlots are often referred to as backyard woods. Keeping or reintroducing native understory vegetation to your backyard woodland helps mitigate climate change, combats biodiversity loss, provides habitat and strengthens the health of our forests!

The following species are recommended for woodland understories in the **Northern Superior Uplands**. Each plant on this list is native to Minnesota, well-suited for the area's projected climate and beneficial to local wildlife.

Common name	Scientific name	Height	Soil preference	Light requirement
Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	12 in.	Acidic, evenly-moist	Part shade
Large-leaved aster	<i>Eurybia macrophylla</i>	60 in.	Adaptable	Part to full shade
Canada mayflower	<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	6 in.	Acidic, organic-rich	Part to full shade
Mountain rice grass	<i>Oryzopsis asperifolia</i>	10–26 in.	Alkaline, average to dry	Sun to part shade
Large-flowered bellwort	<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	1 ft.–2 ft.	Moist	Part to full shade
Beaked hazelnut	<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	12 ft.	Medium texture, moist	Full sun
Bush honeysuckle	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	3 ft.	Adaptable	Full to part sun

Find more information on
climate-ready trees and plants
for every region of Minnesota:

