We are blessed with a climate that allows for tremendous diversity and because of that, a wide variety of trees grow and thrive in our area. There are far more species than the industry can provide commercially. In addition to quality tree selections commonly available at local wholesale and retail nurseries, you will find in this brochure desirable native trees commonly encountered on a wooded lot; these are worth retaining or protecting because they are generally not available, very hard to find, or sold only in bulk to the forest industry. Some selections fit both categories, even if the nursery version is a cultivated variety.

**INFORMATION RESOURCES**

1. [http://www.aufa.com/] (Alabama Urban Forestry Association)
4. [http://www.mtnbrook.org/](http://www.mtnbrook.org/) (City of Mountain Brook homepage)

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**PLANTING TIPS**

1. Dig a shallow, broad hole (5 times root ball diameter).
2. Ensure that trunk flare (where the trunk meets the roots) is at or slightly above grade.
3. Straighten tree in hole and backfill with original soil. Using water will help reduce excessive settling later.
4. Mulch as wide an area possible around the tree, 2"-4" in depth, making sure not to pile mulch or dirt on top of the root ball or at the base of the trunk.
5. If you want or need to use soil amendments, till it into the soil within the entire mulched area, to a depth of 6"-10". This will break up compacted soil and improve the rooting zone, allowing for easy establishment of the tree.
6. **WATER!!** Make sure the tree gets a deep watering at least once a week during the first growing season. It’s better to have infrequent deep watering than more frequent "sprinklings".

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**Mission Statement:**

To help create a beautiful and healthy environment for the residents of the City by maintaining and planting trees in our community.

Established 1994

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**Recommended TREE SELECTIONS**

For the City of MOUNTAIN BROOK

Mountain Brook Tree Commission
56 Church Street

The Mountain Brook Tree Commission
56 Church Street
Mountain Brook, Alabama
35213
Selecting the proper tree for a particular location is crucial. Doing so avoids future conflicts/hazards with utilities and other structures, reduces the likelihood of visibility issues, and generally increases the chance of realizing a tree's full potential. This brochure is intended to serve as a reference and guide to help homeowners, developers, or those new to the region answer such questions. While regional hardiness zone maps are useful, variations in elevation (warm, dry ridge vs. cool, moist bottom), aspect (northeast- vs. southwest-facing slope), and soil type (structure, pH, organic matter) occur on a “neighborhood” scale. Such variations create microclimates, which have a dramatic impact on the performance of a particular tree. Therefore, it is wise to survey an area and take note of which types of trees seem to do well on sites having similar characteristics as yours.

**Footnotes:**

1 non-native; not invasive

**Large Deciduous**
- Red oaks
  - Nuttall oak
  - Shumard oak
  - Willow oak
- White oaks
  - Bur oak
  - Overcup oak
  - White oak
- American elm
- Chinese elm¹
- Red Maple
- Sugar Maple
- American beech
- Bald cypress
- Blackgum
- Sycamore
- Tulip (yellow) poplar

**Medium/Small Deciduous**
- American hornbeam
- Bigleaf magnolia
- Carolina silverbell
- Eastern hop hornbeam
- Sourwood
- Sassafras

**Flowering/Fruit**
- Amelanchier (serviceberry)
- Crabapple (native)
- Eastern redbud
- Flowering dogwood
- Fringetree
- Hawthorn spp.
- Persimmon
- Saucer magnolia¹
- Yellowwood

**Large Evergreen**
- Longleaf pine
- Southern magnolia

**Other**
- Cryptomeria¹
- Deodar cedar¹
- Eastern redcedar
- Eastern hemlock

**Medium/Small Evergreen**
- American holly
  - Foster holly
  - Savannah holly
- Sweetbay magnolia
- Waxmyrtle
- Yaupon holly

**Featured tree:**
- **American elm** (above)
  - American elms can grow from 60-100 feet tall and prefer moist, rich alluvial soils

**Featured tree:**
- **Longleaf pine** (left)
  - Longleaf pine trees have dark green, needle-like leaves and grow best in well-drained, sandy soil and, sometimes, clay soil

**Featured tree:**
- **American holly** (above)
  - American holly trees can grow up to 20-30 feet tall and produce bright red drupes

**Featured tree:**
- **Bigleaf magnolia** (left)
  - Bigleaf mangolias are usually 30-50 feet tall and grow best in deep, rich soil

**Featured tree:**
- **Eastern redbud** (right)
  - Eastern redbuds are beautiful trees that grow best in moist soils of slopes & valleys