



Access all our
Handouts online!

DURANGO NURSERY & SUPPLY

271 Kay Cee Lane, Durango CO

www.durangonursery.com

970-259-8800



HARDY TREES

Trees hardy to at least 7,500ft elevation* (~zone 4)

Category	Tree	Description
Deciduous	<i>Acer platanoides</i> – Norway Maple	Slow Growing. Needs protected sites.
	<i>Acer saccharum</i> – Sugar Maple	Best in rich, mountain soils. North or west exposure.
	<i>Crataegus tricanthos inermis</i> – Thornless Honeylocust	Protect bark from sun scald (with shade or tree wrap) for at least two years after planting
	<i>Populus alba</i> ‘Bolleana’ – Bolleana poplar	Stiffly upright tree with whitish lower leaf surfaces and gray-green bark
	<i>Populus nigra</i> ‘Italica’ – Lombardy poplar	Much like Bolleana in growth habit, but with deep green foliage. Short lived.
	<i>Prunus blireiana</i> ‘Newport’ – Newport Purpleleaf Plum	May be marginal at 7,500ft in some areas.
	<i>Rhus typhina</i> – Staghorn Sumac	Often more shrub-like at higher elevations. Likes dry slopes.
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> – Black Locust	Best with some protection from winds
Fruit	<i>Prunus armeniaca</i> – Apricot	May not consistently fruit where growing season is less than 80 days.
	<i>Prunus cerasus</i> – Sour Cherry	Varieties Montmorency, Meteor, North Star, and Early Richmond are reliable for fruit
	<i>Prunus domestica</i> – Plum	Italian prune varieties, such as Green Gage, are reliable for fruit.
Evergreen	<i>Abies concolor</i> – White Fir	Occasionally found above 8,500ft, but more reliable at lower elevations. Well-drained soils with consistent moisture.
	<i>Picea glauca</i> – Densata Black Hills Spruce	May be hardy above 7,500ft. Moist Sites.
	<i>Pinus edulis</i> – Pinyon Pine	Tolerates dry, south slopes once established.
	<i>Pinus nigra</i> – Austrian Pine	Needs some protection from winds.
	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> – Western arborvitae	Needs protection from drying, cold winter winds.

*Includes trees listed for higher elevations



Access all our
Handouts online!

DURANGO NURSERY & SUPPLY

271 Kay Cee Lane, Durango CO

www.durangonursery.com

970-259-8800



Trees hardy to at least 8,500ft elevation* (~zone 3)

Deciduous	<i>Acer negundo</i> – Box Elder	Native. Best in protected gullies and canyons at higher elevations. Subject to limb breakage during heavy snows.
	<i>Betula Pendula</i> – European white Birch	Use where soils will stay moist in top 18 inches.
	<i>Malus adstringens</i> – Hopa crabapple	Some protection may be needed at over 8,000ft
	<i>Prunus virginiana</i> ‘Shubert’ – Shubert Chokecherry	Foliage changes from green to purple. A small tree or large, multi-trunk shrub.
Fruit	<i>Malus domestica</i> – Domestic Apple	Fruit rare with fewer than 90 frost free days. Early Transparent and similar summer varieties are more likely to succeed.

Trees hardy to at least 10,000ft elevation* (~zone 1-2)

Deciduous	<i>Alnus tenuifolia</i> – Thinleaf Alder	Native. Often Shrubby but can be trained to small tree or tree-clump effect.
	<i>Populus acuminata</i> – Waxleaf Cottonwood	Native. For soils that stay moist.
	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> – Narrowleaf Cottonwood	Native. Best used where soils stay moist. Narrow leaves resemble a willow.
	<i>Populus balsamifera</i> – Balsam poplar	Native. Handsome, thick-textured foliage. Moist soils.
	<i>Populus candicans</i> – White poplar	Native. Foliage nearly heart-shaped. Upper bark showy, smooth, gray. Moist soils.
	<i>Populus tremuloides</i> – Quaking Aspen	Native. Best where soils stay moist. Sites with at least 9 inches of rich, mountain soils are best.

Trees hardy to at least 10,500ft elevation (~zone 1)

Evergreen	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> – Subalpine Fir	Native. Grows to timberline. Needs good drainage but not on hot, dry slopes.
	<i>Juniperus scopularum</i> – Rocky Mountain Juniper	Native. May not perform well above 9,500ft. Tolerates dry slopes once established.
	<i>Picea engelmanni</i> – Engelmann Spruce	Native. Grows to timberline. Will tolerate wet soils along streams and springs.
	<i>Picea pungens</i> – Colorado Spruce	Native. May not perform well above 9,500ft. Tolerates wet stream sides and seepage from springs.
	<i>Pinus aristate</i> – Bristlecone Pine	Native. Soil must be well-drained.
	<i>Pinus contorta latifolia</i> – Lodgepole Pine	Native. Best placed in well-drained soils up to 10,000ft.
	<i>Pinus flexilis</i> – Limber Pine	Native. Use in well-drained soils. Tolerates dry, rocky hilltops once established.

***Includes trees listed for higher elevations**