

Best Choices

These shrubs are **native** to southwestern Ontario and **grow naturally** in the London area.

They are adapted to the local climate, are hardier and easier to maintain than non-native species and are critical to maintaining local biodiversity and ecosystem health.

These shrubs can be planted in and near natural areas as well as in landscape projects. **They should be your first choice.**

LEGEND		Common Name	Scientific Name	Sun	Dry	Moist	Wet	Sand	Loam	Clay	Shape
SUN	○ Full Sun	Arrowwood, Downy	<i>Viburnum rafinesqueanum</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	◐ Part Sun/Shade	Arrowwood, Southern	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	● Shade	Blackberry, Common	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
SOIL	● Dry/Moist/Wet	Bladdernut, American	<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	● Sand/Loam/Clay	Blueberry, Low Sweet	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
		Blueberry, Velvet Leaf	<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
SHAPE	● Tall	Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	▼ Upright	Cherry, Choke	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	— Spreading	Chokeberry, Black	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
SPECIES	◆ Rare in Ontario, but not officially a Species at Risk	Currant, Wild Black	<i>Ribes americanum</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	■ Widely mislabelled and confused with a non-native, invasive species. Only buy from nurseries specializing in native plants.	Dogwood, Grey	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
	× Non-native species	Dogwood, Pagoda	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼
		Dogwood, Red-Osier	<i>Cornus sericea ssp. sericea</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Dogwood, Round Leaved	<i>Cornus rugosa</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Dogwood, Silky	<i>Cornus obliqua</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Elderberry, Common	<i>Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Elderberry, Red	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Gooseberry, Prickly	<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Hazelnut, Beaked	<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Hazelnut, American	<i>Corylus americana</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Highbush Cranberry	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	■	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Holly, Mountain	<i>Ilex mucronatus</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Honeysuckle, Fly	<i>Lonicera canadensis</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Juniper, Common	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Meadowsweet, Narrow-Leaved	<i>Spiraea alba</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Partridgeberry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Prickly-Ash	<i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Raspberry, Black	<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Raspberry, Purple Flowering	<i>Rubus odoratus</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Raspberry, Red	<i>Rubus idaeus subsp. strigosus</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Rose, Carolina	<i>Rosa carolina</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Rose, Smooth	<i>Rosa blanda</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Rose, Swamp	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Strawberry Bush, Running	<i>Euonymus obovata</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Viburnum, Maple-Leaved	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Willow, Bebb	<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Willow, Heartleaf	<i>Salix eriocephala</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Willow, Sandbar	<i>Salix exigua</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Willow, Shining	<i>Salix lucida</i>	○	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Witch-Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	
		Yew, Canadian	<i>Taxus canadensis</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	▼	

Use with Caution

These species **do not occur naturally** in the London area.

Some of them are native to Ontario, but not to the London area. Others are non-native species that are not likely to become problem weeds in our local natural areas.

These shrubs may be used in landscaping, but **should not be used for naturalization projects.**

Common Name	Scientific Name
Alder, Speckled	<i>Alnus incana ssp. rugosa</i>
Bayberry, Northern	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i> ◆
Bayberry, Sweet	<i>Myrica gale</i>
Bearberry, Common	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
Cherry, Sand	<i>Prunus pumila</i> ◆
Hobblebush	<i>Viburnum lantanoides</i>
Mountain-Ash, American	<i>Sorbus americana</i>
New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Rose, Prickly	<i>Rosa acicularis</i>
Saskatoonberry	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Wahoo, Eastern	<i>Euonymus atropurpurea</i> ◆
Wild Raisin, Northern	<i>Viburnum nudum var. cassinoides</i>

Shrubs Not Listed

There are dozens of shrubs available in nurseries that are not listed in this brochure. Often these trees are acceptable as specimen plantings in a groomed landscape, but only green listed species should be used in or near natural areas.

Plan for Success

Different shrubs have different sun, moisture and soil requirements – **always check their requirements to ensure growing success.**

Avoid

These are **non-native species** that have or may become **invasive problem weeds** in southwestern Ontario.

They grow fast and reproduce readily. When they escape into the wild they out-compete native species and disrupt local ecosystems.

These shrubs **should not be planted under any circumstances** and **should be removed when possible** to prevent further invasion.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Barberry, European/Common	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i> ×
Barberry, Japanese	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> ×
Bittersweet, Oriental	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> ×
Buckthorn, European	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> ×
Buckthorn, Glossy	<i>Frangula alnus</i> ×
Currant, European Black	<i>Ribes nigrum</i> ×
Currant, European Red	<i>Ribes rubrum</i> ×
Euonymus, Winged/Burning Bush	<i>Euonymus alatus</i> ×
Hawthorn, Single Seed	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> ×
Honeysuckle, Amur	<i>Lonicera maackii</i> ×
Honeysuckle, European Fly	<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i> ×
Honeysuckle, Hybrid	<i>Lonicera x bella</i> ×
Honeysuckle, Japanese	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> ×
Honeysuckle, Tartarian	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i> ×
Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i> ×
Olive, Autumn	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> ×
Olive, Russian	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> ×
Privet, European	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> ×
Rose, Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> ×
Rose, Multiflora	<i>Rosa multiflora</i> ×
Spindle Tree	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i> ×
Viburnum, Cranberry	<i>Viburnum opulus var. opulus</i> ×
Willow, Basket	<i>Salix purpurea</i> ×
Winter Creeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> ×

Warning!

Some of these species **look very similar to native species** so check their scientific names carefully and **buy from a knowledgeable nursery.**



Trees are a critical part of our community's environmental and economic health. The **Million Tree Challenge** calls on Londoners to plant one million trees and reap the many benefits they provide. Keep the forest in the Forest City - plant trees!

Please register all new trees at www.milliontrees.ca. Every tree counts!



The **Sherwood Fox Arboretum** includes all the planted trees on the campus of Western University. To find out more about the arboretum, call **519.661.2111 x86506**, e-mail arboretum@uwo.ca or visit www.uwo.ca/biology/arboretum



ReForest London is a local not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing environmental and human health in the Forest City through the benefits of trees. To learn about more opportunities to help keep the "forest" in the Forest City, visit www.reforestlondon.ca or call **519.936.9548**.

ReForest London gratefully acknowledges



LONDON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER™

Why choose native species?

Native species:

- Are adapted to the region, so they handle climate extremes and other stressors better
- Are easier to maintain
- Provide suitable wildlife habitat
- Don't disrupt local ecosystems
- Help maintain local biodiversity

Scientific names

It is important to know the scientific name of plants you are considering buying. A scientific name consists of two parts. **The first part is the genus name and may be shared by many species.** For example, *Lonicera* is the scientific name for Honeysuckle. All Honeysuckles will have this as the first part of their scientific name.

The second part of the name is the species. *Lonicera canadensis* is the native Fly Honeysuckle. It is a good shrub choice. *Lonicera tatarica*, on the other hand, is the non-native Tartarian Honeysuckle. It should be avoided. If you see additional names, this indicates a cultivated variety, known as a cultivar. These are individuals of a species who can be recognized by some unique trait, such as variegated leaves or unusually coloured flowers. For example, *Lonicera tatarica* 'Arnolds Red' is a cultivar of invasive Tartarian Honeysuckle. Cultivars of native "green list" species should not be used in naturalization projects because they have limited genetic diversity, but they may be used in landscaping.

Tips for choosing the right shrub

- Decide where you will plant the shrub. Note the soil type (sand, clay or loam), drainage patterns, and light conditions.
- Buy native species, avoiding invasive non-native species. Buy local stock from reliable nurseries with knowledgeable staff. Bring this guide to the nursery.
- Ask questions about the origins and suitability of the tree you plan to buy.
- Look for plants with good foliage colour, flexible branches, plump buds and good growth in previous year.
- The best time to plant most shrubs is in spring or late fall but with good care you can plant all summer long. Evergreens should be planted in the spring.

Tips for successful shrub planting

- Keep shrubs in a cool shaded area until they are planted
- Remove grasses or weeds from the planting area
- Dig a hole 1.5 to 2 times the size of the root ball and keep the topsoil separate
- Remove the shrub from its container and gently loosen the roots
- Position the shrub in the hole so that the top of the root ball will be level with the finished soil level
- Use a high phosphorous transplant fertilizer to promote root growth
- Add compost or organic matter to the soil as you fill the hole
- Replace the topsoil as the top layer
- Water the shrub well
- Add mulch to control weeds and to hold in moisture

For more information

ReForest London's website, www.reforestlondon.ca is a great resource for information such as:

- A list of local nurseries that provide native stock and tips on planting and maintenance
- Ways we can help you get more trees in your own neighbourhood
- A list of trees and shrubs native to the London area
- Instructions on how to plant and care for trees

Visit www.reforestlondon.ca or call **519-936-9548**

Million Tree Challenge

Every tree counts! Please register all trees you have planted since 2011 at www.milliontrees.ca to get recognition in London's **Million Tree Challenge** for your family and your neighbourhood, and to move us closer to our community goal of one million trees.

For a list of **trees** native to the London area look for our brochure "**Choosing the Right Tree in London, Ontario**", or visit www.reforestlondon.ca.

Choosing the Right Shrub

IN LONDON, ONTARIO



The Sherwood Fox Arboretum and ReForest London