

Native Salt-Tolerant Trees



As a coastal region, identifying native trees that can withstand high levels of salt is very important. Below find the top 10 most popular and compatible salt tolerant trees and shrubs for the City of Wilmington, developed by the Wilmington Tree Commission. Information arranged from the Arbor Day Foundation, NC State Extension Gardener, and Commissioner expertise.

Yaupon Holly

Scientific name: *Ilex vomitoria*

Average Height: 10–20 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 8–12 ft

Notes: Evergreen; red fruit; wet soils



Persimmon

Scientific name: *Diospyros virginiana*

Average Height: 35–60 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 20–35 ft

Notes: Edible fruit; strong fall color



Eastern Red Cedar

Scientific name: *Juniperus virginiana*

Average Height: 40–50 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 8–20 ft

Notes: Evergreen; fast growing; blue, berry-like cones



Inkberry

Scientific name: *Ilex glabra*

Average Height: 5–10 ft

Mature Plant Spread: 5–8 ft

Notes: Evergreen; black fruit



Southern Magnolia

Scientific name: *Magnolia grandiflora*

Average Height: 60–80 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 30–50 ft

Notes: Evergreen; fragrant, creamy flowers; maroon underside of leaf



Southern Wax Myrtle

Scientific name: *Morella cerifera*

Average Height: 20–25 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 8–10 ft

Notes: Semi-evergreen; hedging



Live Oak

Scientific name: *Quercus virginiana*

Average Height: 40–80 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 60–100 ft

Notes: Evergreen; prefers moist to dry soils; massive but slow growing



Long Leaf Pine

Scientific name: *Pinus palustris*

Average Height: 60–120 ft

Mature Limb Spread: 30–40 ft

Notes: Full sun; evergreen needles



Dwarf Palmetto

Scientific name: *Sabal minor*

Average Height: 2–10 ft

Mature Plant Width: 4–6 Ft

Notes: Evergreen; fan-shaped



We encourage you to call local nurseries to determine if they have native plants in stock as not all businesses are able to stock these plants and some may only be available in certain seasons.

