

Maple Tree



Ornamental Grass



NURSERY & LANDSCAPE

M. L. L.

TREES-PLANTS-FLOWERS FOR YOU



Trees – Plants - Flowers For You

On the Cover: The maple tree is one of the most recognized ornamental tree species in Minnesota. You'll find their variety in every community and most neighborhoods. Ornamental grasses have become very popular in backyard gardens and landscapes, and provide a great complement to other flowers and plants.

Background Information

When hearing the word agriculture, most people think of corn and soybeans, cows and pigs, and that classic picture of an American farm. But, did you know that the nursery, greenhouse and landscape industry is part of Minnesota agriculture and is valued at over \$2.1 billion annually and growing!

Nationally, horticultural production is also the fastest growing segment of agriculture. The growing of trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals and potted flowering plants is recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as "specialty crop farming".

Urban Agriculture

The nursery, greenhouse and landscape industry reaches into every corner of Minnesota, especially in the Twin Cities metro area where over half of the state's sales occur. You'll know that for sure when venturing out the Saturday before Mother's Day to pick up a plant or two for mom! In addition, nursery and greenhouse crops that are grown in Minnesota are exported to nearly every state and into Canada, as well as to countries overseas.

Agricultural Production Important to Minnesota's Economy

- 22,000 acres of Minnesota land is used in the production of woody plants and field grown perennials
- Minnesota growers use 13,000 million square feet of greenhouse space
- Sales of Minnesota Grown plants total nearly \$350 million dollars annually

Trees for Various Purposes

Trees can improve air quality, conserve water and harbor wildlife. Trees can lower energy costs by cooling your home in the summer with shade and serving as a windbreak against cold winter winds. A tree will be healthier and less stressed by problems if the site is taken into account before the tree species is selected. So, remember to plant the right tree in the right place!

- Trees for Moist Soils
- Small Trees (up to 25')
- Trees for Windbreaks
- Trees That Can Withstand Dry and Sandy Soils
- Trees That Will Withstand City Conditions
- Trees With Ornamental Fruit
- Trees With Vivid Fall Color
- Trees With Ornamental Flowers

Variety is the "Spice of Life"

Beautiful gardens and landscapes bursting with color and form are possible in every season...spring, summer, fall, and yes, even in a Minnesota winter. If you are looking for a way to energize your landscape, fall is a great time to divide or plant new perennials. And, of all the plant choices available for today's landscapes, annuals stand out for their unequalled affordability, versatility and performance.

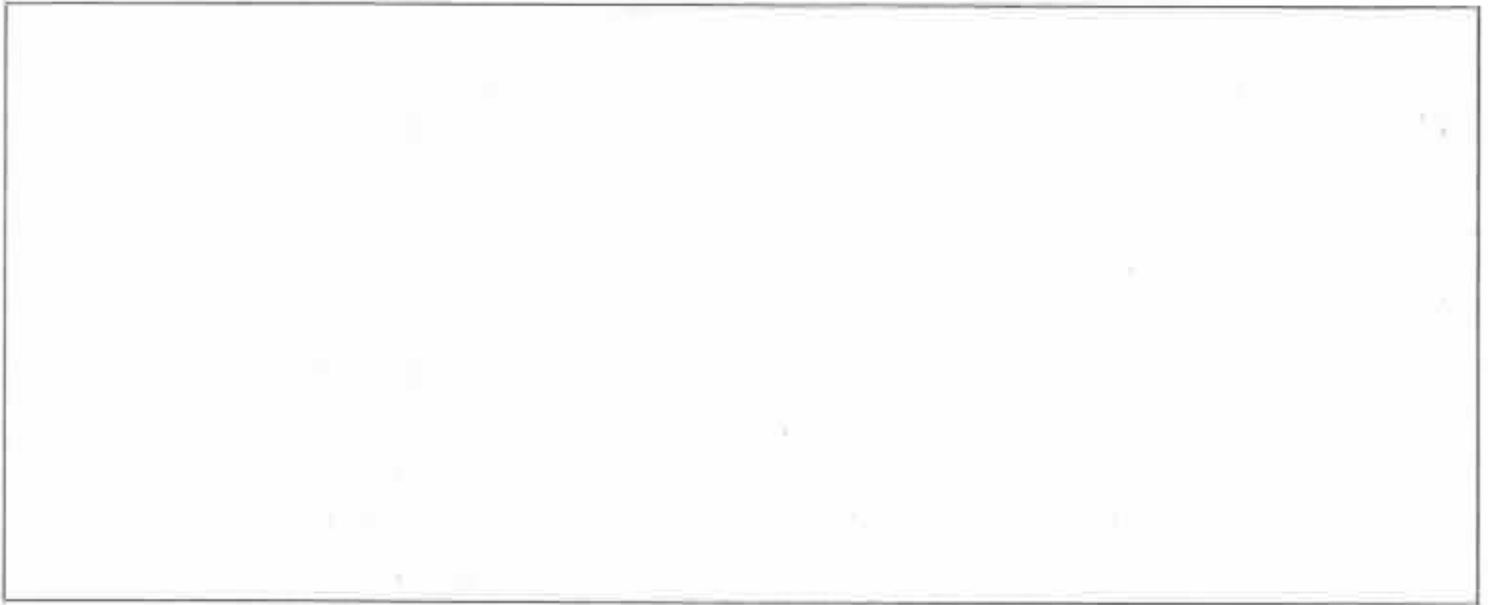
Designing Kid-friendly Landscapes

Just because you have children doesn't mean sacrificing grown-up pleasures like entertaining areas or peaceful respites. If you have very young children it may take flexibility and patience, but with careful planning you can create an outdoor environment both you and your children can enjoy.

- Don't purchase delicate and thorny plants – try ornamental grasses because they are soft yet tough
- Grow things that appeal to the senses – soft lamb's ear or fragrant herbs
- Choose plants for their names – kids like plants with funny names and this is a great educational opportunity
- Incorporate a water feature like a wading pond
- Use that gazebo for entertaining in the evening hours and as a fort or playhouse during the day
- Try some container gardens – a great way to add color all year around – try some unique plants and move them around.

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1. Using the box provided, draw the tree and plant pictured.



2. What is the most recognized ornamental tree species in Minnesota?

3. How can trees help us?

4. Identify four tips for purchasing landscaping that is kid friendly.