# Welcome!

Bates Nursery Botanical Boot Camp Educational Webinar Series

### What Tree Works in My Space

With Ben Trest September 23, 2020

Please **mute** your microphone We will take questions after the lecture via the **chat box Thank you** for joining us!

## **Tree Selection**

### What Tree Will Work in My Space?



### Location, Location, Location!

#1 Consideration when selecting trees is the site

- Sun exposure
  - Any surrounding structures or large trees?
  - Filtered or direct sun
- Space in the Landscape
  - Bed measurements
  - Canopy Space
- Moisture/ Water Levels
  - Does water sit/does it stay dry?

You can learn other things from looking at the location:

- Traffic and movement
- Style of surrounding landscape and house
- View points from inside and out of house



### Location: Site Considerations

Sun Exposure (Shade-Sun)

- **Full Sun** (6+ hours direct sunlight) open beds, no large structures or trees nearby
- **Part Sun/Part Shade** (3-6 hours sunlight) half a day of sun or less, or filtered sun
- Shade (3 hours sun or less) typically under a large tree or up against structure

Space (How much room)

- Ideally the estimated width of a tree does not touch structures or other trees
- Roots can be an issue for sidewalks and pipes under the canopy
- Screening trees can be planted expecting several feet of overlap

Water (wet or dry)

- If the site stays wet for more than 24 hours, drainage is an issue
- Irrigation or hose access near the tree?



Rule of Thumb: Use the site conditions to determine tree options: light, space, water.

### Trees for Utility

What can this tree do for me?

- Fruit/Nut production, for yourself or wildlife
- Screening or blocking views and noise
  - Dense evergreens do well for noise and views
  - Heavily branching trees can form a loose screen
- Erosion control
  - Varieties with vigorous roots
  - Faster growth rate is ideal
- Provide shade to a landscape
  - Can be broad or columnar depending on needs



### Trees for Color

#### Leaf Color

- Fall color is what it's all about!
  - Maples, Black Gum, Ginkgo, Dawn Redwood
- Don't forget trees with colorful spring and summer leaves

#### Flowers

- Spring flowering
  - Cherry, Redbud, Dogwood, Crabapple
- Summer/Fall flowering
  - Crapemyrtle, Magnolia

#### Bark/Fruit

- Great for winter interest
  - Japanese Maples, Willows, River Birch, Crapemyrtle



### Trees for Texture

#### Coarse Textures

- Trees with large leaves
  - Magnolia, Tulip Poplar, Redbud
- Dense branching habits
  - Zelkova, Conifers

#### Fine Textures

- Needled evergreens
- Slender branching trees
  - Dogwood, Snowbell
- Dissected leaves





#### Mixing Textures

- Mix coarse and fine textures for lots of contrast
- Textures can change in the winter and spring

Rule of Thumb: There are many reasons to plant a tree. If you can answer why, you can narrow down your options.

### **Tree Forms/Shapes**

Trees can take many different shapes, these are a few:

- Columnar
- Pyramidal
- Oval/Rounded
- Vase shape
- Weeping





Combine like shapes to create consistency, mix shapes for extra interest!

### Tree Sizes and Scale

- Large: The big 'uns, reaching over 40 feet tall
  Tulip Poplar, Redwood, Leyland Cypress, Oak
- **Mid-sized**: Typically 15-45 feet
  - River Birch, Maples, Magnolias, Zelkova, Green Giant
- Small: 8-20 feet, low enough for under power lines
  - Japanese Maples, Crapemyrtle, Dogwood, Redbud, Cherry, Crabapple, Fruit Trees
- **Dwarf/Miniature**: 4-10 feet, many used for tight spaces and specimen trees
  - Japanese Maples, Dwarf Varieties, Weeping Varieties, Crapemyrtle

Note on Scale: A larger property/home will look better with a larger tree, as well as for a smaller house and smaller tree.



### Planting and Maintenance

- Ideal planting time for all trees is in the Fall months (right now!)
- Spring is second best to plant, avoid mid-summer if possible
- Water if the soil runs dry spring-fall for the first year
- Fertilize if needed, usually spring and fall
- Try to keep pruning minimal, prune off any damaged branches
- Amend soil at planting with Earthmix Landscape Soil Conditioner!
  Basic rate is 1bag = 15gallons of plant material



Fun Fact: Most trees will become established within about a year, pay attention to water and fertilizer in this period.

### Thank You! Bates Nursery Botanical Boot Camp Educational Webinar Series

**Questions?** 

Feel free to bring your questions with you to Bates Nursery, our Landscape Specialists will be happy to assist you!