Shade Tree Options

1. **Princeton Elm**



Elms require significant space to really thrive. They are not always ideal as street trees but can be great in yards. Modern cultivars are resistant to Dutch Elm Disease, but do require frequent structural pruning as they establish. Prone to splitting.

2. **October Glory Red Maple**



A riparian tree, red maples require consistent watering during droughts. They will produce surface roots if there is not enough soil volume/resources for them.

3. **Black gum**



Excellent fall color, and tolerates a number of soil conditions.

4. **Swamp white oak**



As the name suggests, prefers wetter soil conditions.

5. **Nuttall oak**



Very adaptable to urban soils

6. **Overcup oak**



Does very well in our area with enough soil volume, so not ideal for narrow planting strips.

7. **White oak**



State tree of Maryland, Excellent for caterpillars and wildlife, needs sufficient root space and low compaction in the soil

8. **Tulip tree**



Common shade tree in our area. Needs sufficient soil volume to prevent future issues. Starts to drop leaves earlier than other trees and for longer.

9. **Willow Oak**



A popular tree in central Maryland. Generally does quite well in our conditions.

10. **American sycamore**



Prefers wet environments, but grows rapidly once established.

11. American holly



Great for screening views, very tolerant of urban soils. Prone to some frost damage.

12. American hornbeam



Also called Basswood. Does well in our area with a medium growth rate. Becomes a dense shade tree.

Understory Tree Options

13. Eastern redbud



Grows well in our area and great blooms. Not as long-lived as other trees (30-50 years being old for a redbud). Canopy spreads out some. Tolerates some shade.

14. Serviceberry



Very popular with wildlife, it can go in narrow planting areas. Sometimes called Shadbush

15. Cherokee Brave Flowering dogwood



Popular flowering tree. Multiple cultivars/colors are available in our area, and ones resistant to anthracnose should be selected.

16. Witch hazel



Popular small tree species. The bloom times depend on species selected: Virginiana blooms in the fall, and vernalis blooms in spring.