



New Tree Planting

What should I choose?

Why plant trees?

It is unlikely that the Council would grant planning consent for development which was not acceptable in its own right. However, if it is considered that planting would enhance or soften the impact of that development - or be in the interests of surrounding development - the implementation of an approved landscaping scheme will normally be a condition of consent. Where there are existing trees of significant visual importance on a development site it is likely that these will be the subject of a Preservation Order. Even if they are not, but are to be retained together with other landscape features, they should play an important role in providing a framework for new planting.

What trees can be planted?

The aim of this leaflet is to give guidance on some of the trees which are suitable for the principle conditions to be found in Mid Sussex. The table overleaf is by no means exhaustive but intended to give information on the characteristics and tolerances of some of the more common trees which can be used in this area. There are many excellent books on trees and scrubs which give more detailed information on a wider variety of species.



There is a wide selection of plant material available to suit the particular characteristics of most sites so that the plants which are used will inevitably reflect individual tastes. However, it is always a good idea to study the area and note what species are flourishing. These have proved themselves and the use of similar ones in a scheme gives the development a more natural appearance. This does not, of course, rule out the inclusion of more exotic species, if the soil and climatic conditions are suitable.

Where trees are readily accessible to, or within easy reach of, the general public, care should be taken to avoid species which are poisonous to children and animals. In addition, trees

which may attract extra attention, such as those bearing edible fruit or conkers, should be positioned where this attention is least likely to cause a nuisance to nearby residents.

Species	Common Name	Latin Name	D/E	Growth Rate	Ultimate Height	Soil type				Tolerances			
						Ch	Cl	Lo	Sa	Dr	Da	Sh	C/E
Acacia	Robina pseudoacacia	D	F	L/M	•	•	•	•	•				
Alder – Common	Alnus glutinosa	D	F	L/M		•	•				•	•	
Ash – Common	Fraxinus excelsior	D	F/M	L	•		•	•			•		
Ash – Manna	Fraxinus omus	D	M	M	•	•	•						
Aspen	Populus tremula	D	F	M		•	•				•	•	
Beech – Common	Fagus sylvatica	D	M	L	•		•	•	•			•	
Beech – Southern	Nothofagus procera	D	F	L		•	•						
Birch- Common Silver	Betula pendul	D	F	L/M	•	•	•	•	•			•	
Cedar – Lebanon	Cedrus libani	E	F/M	L		•	•	•	•				
Cedar – Western Red	Thuja plicata	E	M	L		•	•						
Cherry – Wild	Prunus avium	D	F/M	L/M	•	•	•						
Chestnut – Horse	Aesculus	D	F	L	•	•	•					•	
Chestnut – Sweet	Castanea sativa	D	M	L			•	•	•				
Cypress – Lawson	Chamaecyparis	E	M/F	L		•	•					•	
Holly – Common	Ilex aquifolium	E	S	M/S	•	•	•	•	•			•	
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna	D	M/S	M/S	•	•	•	•				•	
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	D	M	L/M	•	•	•				•	•	
Lime – Small Leaved	Tilia cordata	D	M	L/M	•	•	•				•	•	
Lime	Tilia x euchlora	D	M	M	•	•	•		•				
Maple – Field	Acer campestre	D	M	M/S	•	•	•				•		
Maple – Norway	Acer platanoides	D	F/M	L	•	•	•	•	•			•	
Oak – Common	Quercus robur	D	M/S	L	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
Oak – Evergreen	Holm Quercus ilex	E	S	L/M	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	
Oak – Red	Quercus rubra	D	M	L		•	•	•					
Pine – Corsican	Pinus nigra maritima	E	F	L	•	•	•	•	•			•	
Plane – London	Platanus x hispanica	D	F/M	L	•	•	•		•				
Poplar – White	Populus alba	D	F	M	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	D	M	M		•	•	•	•			•	
Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	D	F	L	•	•	•				•	•	
Walnut	Juglans regia	D	M	L/M	•	•	•		•			•	
Whitebeam	Sorbus aria	D	M	L/M	•	•	•				•	•	
Willow – Goat	Salix caprea	D	F	S		•	•	•	•	•		•	
Yew	Taxus baccata	E	S	M/S	•	•	•		•		•	•	

D = Deciduous
E = Evergreen

F = Fast
M = Medium
S = Small

L = Large
M = Medium
S = Small

Ch = Chalk
Cl = Clay
Lo = Loam

Sa = Sand
Sh = shade
Dr = Dry

Da = Damp
C/E = Cold and Exposed

What are the main considerations?

Some of the questions which need to be asked are:

- Is the planting pleasant to look at?
- What will be the function of the new planting?
- Is it to screen an eyesore?
- Is it to soften the effect of buildings?
- Is it to provide shade or a windbreak?
- Is high or low level vegetation required - or both?



The choice of species depends on a number of factors including:

- Public or private land
- Initial cost
- Urban or rural location
- Soil and climatic conditions
- Constraints of underground or over ground services
- Visibility to highway users
- Proximity to buildings
- Possible loss of natural light
- Ultimate height and spread.

It is not the Council's intention to be unduly restrictive. Normally, provided the above general considerations are taken into account, a reasonable amount of latitude will be allowed for preferred species to be chosen.

However, it is strongly recommended that conifer hedges should not be planted. These cause problems to neighbours and could, in time, be the subject of formal complaints (under Part 8 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003).

Unless a tree is being planted as an individual specimen to create a focal point for a particular reason, it is always a good idea to plant in groups. As well as having more of a visual impact, group planting also has a better chance of survival because the plants protect each other. For added protection it is often advisable to erect fencing around newly planted areas until they have become established. All trees should, of course, be adequately protected against animal damage.