The Front Range Low-Water Tree Field Guide

The 12 proven low-water trees we would actually plant on the Front Range, with how to site and establish each. Print it, check off your picks, take it to the nursery.

ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing any of these: water deeply every 7 to 10 days through the first two summers, then taper toward monthly. Winter-water on dry, thawed days October to March. After that, the low-water rating holds.

No. 01

Adirondack Crabapple

Malus 'Adirondack'

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 15-18 ft, W 12 ft	full sun	moderate	low to med

Good for: fits tight spots, OK under power lines

ASK FOR *Malus 'Adirondack'*

Heads up: Upright branching

No. 02

Elm 'Frontier'

Ulmus minor x U. parvifolia

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 40-50 ft, W 30 ft	full sun	fast	low to med

Good for: needs room, give it space

ASK FOR *Ulmus minor x U. parvifolia*

Heads up: Subject to early fall frost

No. 03

Downy Hawthorn

Crataegus mollis

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 25-30 ft, W 25 ft	full sun/part sun	moderate	low to med

ASK FOR *Crataegus mollis*

Heads up: Rust

No. 04

Turkish Filbert/Hazelnut

Corylus colurna

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 40-60 ft, W 35 ft	full sun/part sun/dappled	moderate	low to med

Good for: needs room, give it space

ASK FOR *Corylus colurna*

No. 05

Thornless Common Honeylocust

Gleditsia triacanthos

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 30-45 ft, W 40 ft	full sun	fast	low to med

Good for: south wall, needs room, give it space

ASK FOR *Gleditsia triacanthos*

Heads up: Wrap young trees

No. 06

Juniper 'Blue Point'

Juniperus chinensis

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 8-12 ft, W 8 ft	full sun	slow	low to med

Good for: slope, fits tight spots, OK under power lines

ASK FOR *Juniperus chinensis*

No. 07

Amur/Ginnala Maple

Acer tataricum subsp. ginnala

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 15-20 ft, W 20 ft	full sun/part sun/dappled	moderate	low to med

Good for: hellstrip, fits tight spots, OK under power lines

ASK FOR *Acer tataricum subsp. ginnala*

WATCH OUT **Can develop chlorosis in alkaline soils**

No. 08

English Oak

Quercus robur

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 40-60 ft, W 60 ft	full sun	slow	low to med

Good for: needs room, give it space

ASK FOR *Quercus robur*

Heads up: Susceptible to gamble oak borer

No. 09

Common Chokecherry

Prunus virginiana

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 15-25 ft, W 20 ft	full sun	moderate	low to med

Good for: fits tight spots, OK under power lines

ASK FOR *Prunus virginiana*

WATCH OUT **Tree form suckers**

No. 10

Pear

Pyrus

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 15-25 ft, W 20 ft	full sun	moderate	low to med

Good for: fits tight spots, OK under power lines

ASK FOR *Pyrus*

Heads up: Fruiting varieties; Needs a cross pollinizer

No. 11

Limber Pine

CO NATIVE

Pinus flexilis

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 30-50 ft, W 35 ft	full sun	slow	low to med

Good for: slope, needs room, give it space

ASK FOR *Pinus flexilis*

No. 12

Narrowleaf Poplar (cottonwood)

CO NATIVE

Populus angustifolia

SIZE	SUN	GROWTH	WATER
H 30-50 ft, W 25 ft	full sun	fast	low to med

Good for: needs room, give it space

ASK FOR *Populus angustifolia*

WATCH OUT **Vigorous suckering**

Every yard is different. Filter these to your exact sun, space, and water at coloradogardening.co, then save your shortlist.

SOURCE

Rated from the CSU Front Range Tree Recommendation List and data/trees.json. Sizes are mature estimates for our conditions.