

NOTES ON DECIDUOUS SHRUBS



- * As with the list of evergreen shrubs, the recommended varieties for our small gardens, in order to avoid an overgrown, overcrowded look, are the “compact” or “dwarf” specimens of any plant.
- * Before purchasing or planting a specimen shrub, a site should be selected that will allow the plant, if at all possible, to grow to its natural shape. For example: If, at maturity, a plant’s habit is to have arching branches, then it should ideally be allowed to do so, instead of having to clip and shear into an unnatural shape. More work, inferior appearance!
- * On the other hand, if a certain plant is known for its habit of growing suckers, or for having an unusually wide spread for our gardens, then it must be kept in check by pruning back as necessary, otherwise it may take over the garden! Not so pretty!
- * As with evergreens, deciduous shrubs can suffer from drying winter winds. They also enjoy the protection of snow cover.
- * Some softer-stemmed plants need to be cut back to live growth in the spring, to allow clean new branching for the season.
- * Harder-wooded shrubs will benefit by cutting back winter-damaged branches, or for shaping the plant in early spring.
- * Finally, as with all plants, the needs of deciduous shrubs are straightforward garden necessities:
 - o Enriched soil, even moisture, and good drainage.
 - o Sufficient room to grow.
 - o Pruning back dead or damaged branches, and deadheading (removal of spent blooms) as necessary.



NOTES ON ROSES







It is a well known fact that these garden divas require specific care. But, when properly cared for, they are outstanding plants, and they will reward you with blooms throughout the growing season. Should you plan to grow some roses in your garden, please be aware that you will need to maintain them yourself since the Melfer gardeners may not give your roses the attention they need in order to be presentable all season long. Proper care by the homeowners will mean:










- * dead-heading regularly so as not to have unsightly spent blooms all over the garden,
- * keeping the shrubs relatively disease-free from black spot, mildew, and any insect infestations such as aphids, and
- * knowing how to prune your roses every spring in order to encourage fresh growth and good form.







If you cannot commit to such maintenance, then they are not the plant for your garden. Roses will be judged for maintenance standards, as with any other plants in your garden, by our management team at FSR throughout the growing season.







DECIDUOUS SHRUBS							
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
AZALEA	Rhododenron family	Part shade to light shade, Rich loamy and moist, but well-drained	Up to 4' tall by 3' wide, but rather slow-growing	Spring, early summer	Many colours, Good fall foliage in most	A mass of blooms in season Some varieties are very fragrant in bloom.	The series called 'Northern Lights' are bred for our climate. Very cold hardy Varieties include: 'Apricot sunrise' 'Golden lights' 'Orchid lights' 'Rosy lights' 'Spicy lights' 'White lights'
							
BARBERRY Dwarf varieties only	Berberis thunbergii	Best in full sun to part shade, Dry or moist soil	18" to 3' tall by 3' wide for dwarf varieties	Mid-spring	Vibrant foliage in shades of green, yellow, and rich ruby red and burgundy	The tiny yellow flowers in the spring and scarlet fruit in the fall are secondary to the colourful foliage.	A tough winter-hardy plant with needle-sharp spines or thorns. It is to be handled carefully! Only the dwarf varieties should be planted in our small gardens as they require little or no pruning and shaping, making them low maintenance. Fall colours can be rich depending on variety. It can lend interesting texture to the garden composition and makes a nice backdrop for other plants.
							



DECIDUOUS SHRUBS (cont'd)							
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
BLUE SPIREA, BLUEBIRD, BLUEBEARD	<i>Caryopteris x clandonensis</i>	Full sun to light shade	Up to 24" low-mounding	July to September	Soothing blue flowers and grey foliage	Attractive to bees and butterflies	 <p>'Blue Mist' hybrid recommended Cut back in spring to 2" to 6".</p>
BURNING BUSH DWARF	<i>Euonymus alatus compactus</i>	Full sun to light or part shade, Well drained, Medium wet	2' to 10' by 2' to 10'	Green-leaved	Brilliant red in fall with red berries	A fall interest plant	
							<p>Can be sheared, but best located where it can be left to grow into its natural form.</p>







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COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
BUTTERFLY BUSH	<i>Buddleia</i>	Full sun, Well-drained Rich soil	24" to 36"	Summer	White, pinks, red, purple	Fragrant Good cut flower	Many varieties Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.
							
CARRAGANA PENDULA WEEPING PEA SHRUB	<i>Caragana arborescens</i> 'Pendula' or 'Walker'	Full sun to partial shade Drought tolerant once established	4' tall by equal width in several years	Yellow pea-like flowers mid spring	Summer: light feathery green foliage Fall: bright yellow	A graceful accent plant that looks good in all seasons.	A weeping tree form that makes an outstanding slow- growing ornamental. A native of Eastern Siberia and Manchuria, it is a very tough and easy to grow plant. It wears winter well when the unusual shape and structutre of the shrub make it a stand-out amid winter shapes. Winter snows drift over the cascading branches and gather on the crown providing a lovely display in the cold landscape.
							







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CINQUEFOIL SHRUB	Potentilla fruticosa	Full sun to part afternoon shade	3' by 3'	Over a long time during the summer till frost	Broad range of shades of orange, pink, red, white	Blue/green, chartreuse/gold	Crisp neat foliage and charming flowers that resemble anemones ensure that potentilla always has something going in the garden. It is a very winter hardy plant, adaptable to many soils and is easy to grow. The shrub needs very little pruning to keep it in good shape. Some varieties are more compact and well worth asking for, as this will cut down on effort to maintain the plant in a tidy form.
				 			
		 					
CORKSCREW HAZEL 'Harry Lauder's Walking Stick'	Corylus contorta	Full sun to partial shade, Fertile soil, Well-drained	Up to 8' to 10'	Early spring catkins, nuts, foliage	Stems and leaves twisted and contorted	Particularly interesting feature in winter garden when bare stems are most visible.	A few branches from this quirky plant are stunning in any floral arrangement! This is truly a specimen plant, a conversation piece.
							



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CURRENT ALPINE	Ribes alpinum	Sun to shade, Tolerant of alkaline soils.	Slow-growing to 6'	Spring: greenish yellow flowers decorative	Green	Densely twiggy habit Can be used as hedge.	Good gold autumn colour Severe pruning can keep it compact creating a wall of ivy-shaped leaves. Installed by developer in most home back gardens in Condo 5.
							
DEUTZIA 'Boule de Neige'	Deutzia gracilis compacta	Full sun Moist, well-drained soil	2' to 5' by 2' to 5'	Early summer	White, in large clusters	Spring blooms	
							Compact variety is superior and denser. Variegated variety available

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DOGWOOD Shrub varieties	<i>Cornus alba</i> , <i>aureo-marginata</i>	From full sun to shade, depending on variety	Varies with cultivar from 5' to 10' by 5' to 10'	Summer foliage	<i>Alba</i> is a red twig variety with green leaves <i>Aureo-marginata</i> has grey-green leaves	Fall and winter colour in stems	Stems used widely in outdoor floral arrangements for decorative urns. The tree versions of this species are too tender for our area.
							
FOTHERGILLA DWARF	<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i>	Full sun to part shade	24" to 36"	Mid to late spring	White, airy, "bottle brush"-looking flowers, Dark green foliage	Winning fall colour!	
							







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FORSYTHIA	<i>Forsythia</i> 'Ottawa' or 'Northern Gold'	Full sun to light shade	Compact up to 5' tall	Early spring	Bright yellow flowers cover the plant before the leaves emerge.	Always welcome, very early spring bloomer	 <p>Agriculture Canada hybrids are hardy varieties for cold climates. Look for dwarf varieties.</p>
JAPANESE MAPLE	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Full sun to part shade	From 2' tall and wide	Exquisite foliage specimens	Pink and green, yellow, reds	Spectacular fall colour displays	
							<p>Leaves can be the typical leaf as shown in middle photo, or delicately dissected and lacy as in right photo.</p> <p>Can be tender in our area. Choose carefully.</p>







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JAPANESE QUINCE	<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	Full sun Well-drained loam	Up to 5' by 5' depending on cultivar	Early spring	Red, pink, orange	Dark green foliage Cut branches in bloom are very decorative	<p>These are thorned plants that should be handled with care and thick gloves!</p> <p>Only dwarf cultivars are recommended for our small gardens as the standard-sized shrubs will need constant pruning and shaping to keep them in check. Plants in clay soils will survive but will not be as vigorous, but this is a hardy plant overall.</p> <p>Since it has a short-lived bloom period it is not a specimen plant.</p>
							
LILAC DWARF KOREAN	<i>Syringa meyeri 'Palibin'</i>	Full sun to light shade	4' to 5'	Mid-spring	Bluish-pink or lavender-pink	Nice spicy, lilac fragrance	<p>Compact, rounded, well behaved</p> <p>An alternative is the 'Pink Perfume Bloomerang' lilac- also a compact plant.</p>
							



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COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
MOCK ORANGE	<i>Philadelphus 'snowdwarf' or 'snowbelle'</i>	Full sun to light shade	Compact variety, 18" to 45" tall by 18" spread	Spring, summer depending on cultivar	White	Stunning clusters of fragrant flowers Rounded form Cut branches great for arrangements	Best used close to driveways or sidewalks where its intoxicating fragrance can be appreciated. Spectacular in bloom, this shrub fades into the background for the rest of the year therefore does not qualify as a specimen plant. Relatively low maintenance and long-lived Tolerant of urban conditions Dwarf varieties are available and recommended for our small gardens.
							
NINEBARK	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Full sun to part shade	5' by 5'	May-June	Foliage can be green, shades of burgundy or yellow with white flower clusters.	Attractive mainly for its foliage colours	A very hardy long-lived, native plant that is easy to grow. Some varieties have remarkable orange-copper foliage in spring, followed by vibrant red or russet brown in summer, and attractive red seed capsules in the fall. A dwarf version such as 'Tiny Wine', 'Burgundy Candy' or 'Little Devil' are available and are highly recommended for small gardens.
							







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RHODODENDRON DWARF	Rhododendron PJM hybrids	Partial shade to light shade	From 3" to 6' tall	Early summer	Pinks, purples	Evergreen leaves "Felty" undersides	Compact, slow growing varieties Hardy here
							
ROSE	Rosa	Full morning sun to part afternoon shade Enjoys regular fertilizing.	From short and compact, to large shrubs	Early June to late fall on re-blooming varieties	Endless variety of form and colour available from miniatures, floribundas, hybrid teas, and grandifloras.	Well-tended roses will enhance a garden throughout the growing season. For better results, choose hardy, black spot resistant hybrids.	Deadhead routinely to encourage reblooming HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: 'David Austin' roses...always beautiful, frequent re-bloomers, with exquisite "old rose" fragrances. Please refer to the above notes on growing roses.
							



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ROSE MALLOW	<i>Hibiscus muscheutos</i> or <i>Swamp mallow</i>	Full sun, Rich, moist soil	From 4' to 6' high by 3'-4'wide	Late summer bloomer	White, pink, peach, red, bicolours	Blooms are 8-12 inches! Also known as dinner plate Hibiscus.	<p>A tall but narrow plant, it is a good choice for a narrow flower bed or for the back of the garden.</p> <p>Stems die back in winter and should be cut back to 6" above the ground in spring.</p> <p>This plant is generally slow to emerge in the spring.</p> <p>Deadheading the daily blooms regularly encourages new blooms.</p> <p>Dwarf varieties available</p>
							
ROSE-OF-SHARON or HARDY HIBISCUS or ALTHEA	<i>Hibiscus sinosyriacus</i>	Full sun to part shade	1' To 15' by 6' to 10'	Midsummer to fall	White, pinks, blues, purples	Single or double 5-petaled, trumpet-shaped flowers	
			<p>It is a tall woody shrub that grows into a tight upright vase shape or that can be grown as a small specimen tree.</p> <p>It attracts hummingbirds and butterflies</p> <p>It needs rich well-drained soil, grows slowly and requires minimal maintenance-although it can be afflicted with pests and diseases.</p> <p>Loves the summer heat!</p>				

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SANDCHERRY PURPLE-LEAVED	<i>Prunus x cisterna</i>	Full sun Moist, well- drained and sheltered	5' to 6' high by 5' to 6' wide	Very early spring	Light pink fragrant flowers Dark purple foliage Tiny purple black fruit in summer	One of the first shrubs to bloom in the spring	Short life span Slow to medium growth rate, but can grow tall. Prune after flowering to keep dense and compact.
							
SPIREA	<i>Spiraea</i>	Full sun	From 3' to 6' tall	Summer	White, pink	Some cultivars have good fall colour.	Many varieties including compact ones 'Bridal Wreath' shown here
							

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SUMAC FRAGRANT	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Full sun, Tolerates part shade	2' to 6' tall by 5' to 10' spread	Foliage and fruit in fall	Red to purple	Fragrant	Beware, it is a spreader!
							
VIBURNUM	<i>Viburnum</i>	Full sun to part shade, Moist, well- drained soil	3' to 10' tall, depending on variety	Flowers mid- late spring.	White	Red to black fruit in fall	Fruit attractive to birds Only a variety that is resistant to leaf beetle should be selected.
							

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COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
WEIGELA	Weigela florida	Full sun Well-drained soil	18" to 2' for smaller varieties but up tp 6'	Spring and summer with trumpet- shaped flowers	Rosy-pink shades	Available in variegated, red, purple leaf, chartreuse, and dwarf cultivars	As the original Weigela grows up to 6 feet in height and width, again, a dwarf version of this plant is more desirable for our small gardens. The wide variety of foliage available makes this plant a desirable specimen in a mixed garden and it attracts hummingbirds too. Hand prune late spring when shrub has finished blooming. It is adaptable to many soil types, and has a slow growth rate.
							
WILLOW TRICOLOUR or DAPPLED	Salix integr 'Hakuro Nishiki'	Full sun Tolerates some afternoon shade.	4' by 4'	Spring but of no significance	Not ornamentally significant	Smooth bark and brick red branches add an interesting dimension.	
							A native of China, Japan, Korea, and South eastern Siberia, it is tough, adaptable, and is tolerant of urban pollution, and wet soil. It is a superb garden accent. One of the showiest shrubs for foliage colour, new spring growth emerges soft pink, maturing to variegated shades of pink, creamy white, and green. Pruning in late winter while still dormant will control size. 'Flamingo ' is a new hybrid of this plant with bolder colours.

CLIMBING PLANTS							
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
CLEMATIS	<i>Clematis</i>	ALWAYS: Feet in the shade Head in the sun Likes rich, well-drained soil.	Varies with cultivars, from the compact to the very tall.	Spring to Fall	Virtually all colours Flowers vary widely in form, shape, and size.	Once finished blooming, many clematis will have showy seed heads that remain pretty throughout the winter.	Many hybrids to choose from! Both flowers and seed heads are useful for arranging. Depending on the hybrid, blooms from early spring to late fall. Many varieties display blooms all summer long. Must be attached to a support!
							
HYDRANGEA	<i>Hydrangea petiolaris</i>	Part sun to part shade Likes acidic, rich soil.	Self-clinging Will grow slowly to 40 feet if allowed.	Lacy white flower heads in summer and attractive seed heads all winter	Green foliage turns bright yellow in fall.	Gnarly, peeling branches are interesting during winter months.	An easy to grow, hardy climber
							

CLIMBING PLANTS (cont'd)							
COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	EXPOSURE: SUN/SHADE SOIL	SIZE: HEIGHT WIDTH	BLOOMING SEASON	BLOOM OR FOLIAGE COLOUR	SPECIAL OR SEASONAL INTEREST	NOTES
ROSES CLIMBING	Rosa	Full morning sun to part afternoon shade Fertilize regularly Same care as a shrub rose.	Long canes require sturdy support.	Early June to late fall on re-blooming varieties, especially when deadheaded on a regular basis	An endless variety of form and colour are available.	Well-tended roses will enhance a garden for the entire growing season. For better results, choose hardy, black spot resistant hybrids.	HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: 'John Cabot' rose (immediate left) It will climb 20 feet if allowed, and is very hardy. Also recommended are all the 'David Austin' roses (middle picture) always beautiful, frequent rebloomers, with exquisite fragrances.
