

Planting Native Trees in Terrebonne Parish

Native plants require less water. They have fewer insect and disease problems.

Native plants grow better and are better for the local ecosystem.

Barataria-Terrebonne
National Estuary Program Office
320 Audubon Drive
North Babington Hall Room 105
Nicholls State University Campus
Thibodaux, LA 70301



BTNEP

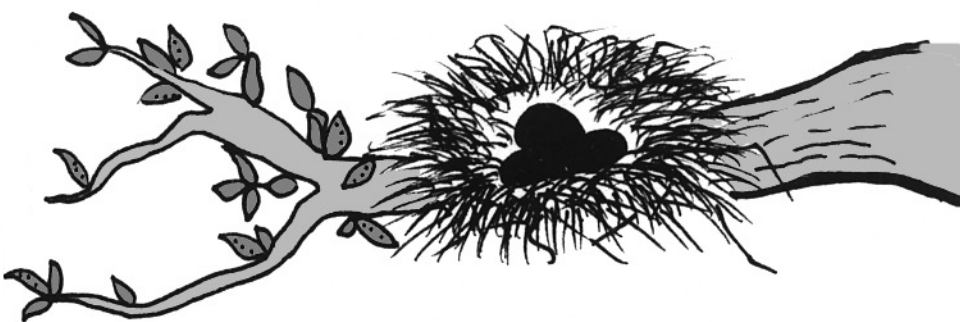
BARATARIA-TERREBONNE
NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

1-800-259-0869
985-447-0868

Fax: 985-447-0870

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How are trees used ?

One of the most natural habitats for land animals is trees.

Birds are naturally drawn to trees and shrubs. Why? They provide birds with a place to hide from their enemies, a place to nest and roost, a place to get a meal, and a place to rest. If you live in an area in the path of migrating birds, be sure to also consider their needs on their long journeys to their winter or summer homes. Also consider if a species of bird has a favorite food or type of nesting place. When you look deeper into the parts of a tree, you will discover that from top to bottom, trees provide many things people use each day.

The trunks of trees are primarily used to make solid wood products such as furniture, musical instruments, lumber and handles for tools and sporting equipment. Trunks also are peeled into thin sheets and used as veneer (top decorative layer) for plywood and furniture. Other products made from trunks include baseball bats, charcoal, boat paddles, guitars, swing sets, birdhouses, crutches, fence posts.

Gums, which are found in the sap of trees, are used in the many products such as food, adhesives, paints and medicines. In foods, gum is a thickening agent. Ice cream and other frozen desserts are kept smoother by these gums. Some trees provide the gum used to make adhesives like glue and hair spray. Other varieties have antiseptic properties and are used in soaps and cough syrups.

Some products are made from roots such as sassafras tea and root beer. Pine tree stumps provide the wood rosin and liquid turpentine used in making many other products, including orange-flavored soft drinks, pine cleaners and laundry detergents.

Don't Forget Before You Plant to:

Take an inventory of your current property.

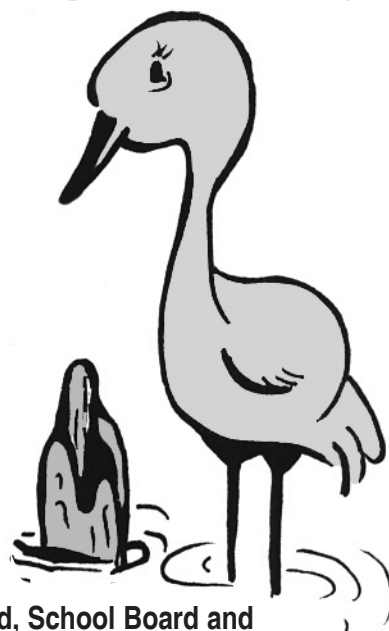
How many different types of trees are there?

What type of trees do you have?

Do you have any evergreens?

Do any bear fruit, nuts, berries, seeds or cones?

How dense are they?



Thanks to:

Terrebonne Parish Tree Board, School Board and
T. P. Consolidated Government, LSU Agriculture Extension,
4-H Group Leaders, LUMCON and The Courier

Where to plant a tree ?

Selecting the site to plant a tree is very important. To choose a proper site, follow these steps.

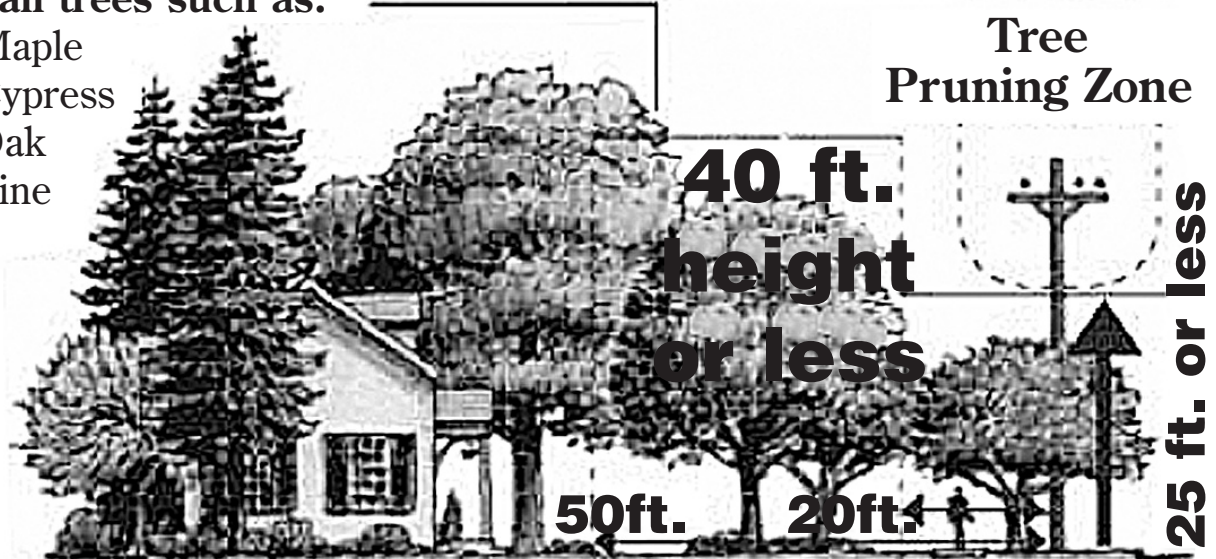
1. Make a sketch of the school yard showing the existing trees and landscaping, the playground area, sidewalks and driveways, buildings, and overhead utility lines.
2. Choose the primary purpose of the tree; such as whether the tree is for shade, decoration or habitat for wildlife.
3. Think about how the tree will look in 10, 20 or even 50 years. Plan for enough space so that the tree can grow to its fullest potential.
4. Avoid planting a large tree under utility lines, near buildings, or near driveways, streets, or sidewalks where the roots may cause damage to cement foundations or pathways.

Tall trees such as:

Maple
Cypress
Oak
Pine

Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines

Tree Pruning Zone



Medium trees such as:

Green Ash
Yellow Poplar

Small Trees like:

Drake Elm
Crepe Myrtle

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Tree Truth

By providing a variety of different trees and shrubs, you can attract a variety of wildlife to your yard. Some trees will provide food, others will provide shelter. Animals need cover to hide from their enemies. At night this cover keeps them safe as well as in wintry or stormy weather. They get protection from the sun and heat and cold. In the spring, the same cover will provide habitats for them.

Which trees are native to south Louisiana ?

Categories of Trees

Deciduous

1. Green Ash
2. Bald Cypress
3. Yellow Poplar
4. Southern Red Oak
5. Shumard Oak
6. Cherrybark Oak

Evergreen

1. Live Oak
2. Southern Magnolia
3. Semi-evergreen-Drake Elm

Fast Growing

1. Green Ash
2. Bald Cypress
3. Yellow Poplar
4. Drake Elm
5. Cherry Bark Oak
6. Southern Red Oak

Slow Growing

1. Live Oak
2. Southern Magnolia
3. Shumard Oak

Suited for large open areas.

1. Live Oak
2. Southern Red Oak
3. Cherry Bark Oak
4. Shumard Oak
5. Bald Cypress
6. Yellow Poplar

Suited for small areas.

1. Drake Elm
2. Southern Magnolia
3. Green Ash

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What tree should be selected?

Selection - Review the positives and negatives of each tree species. With your group, choose the most appropriate tree for your selected site. Be able to explain why you choose a particular tree.

Positives

Negatives

Live Oak

1. Picturesque native tree.
2. Long-lived tree.
3. Broad-spreading form.
4. Sturdy strong tree.

1. Needs large space to grow.
2. Attracts caterpillars.
3. Often considered slow growing.

Green Ash

1. Attractive shape and foliage.
2. Good shaped tree.
3. Good fall color.

1. Wood boring insects attack it.
2. Weak branches and forks.
3. Moderately fast growth rate.

Southern Magnolia

1. Louisiana State Flower.
2. Evergreen tree.
3. Interesting cone fruit.

1. Scale insects attack tree.
2. Messy with leaf drop.
3. Roots cause problem with mowers and sewer lines.
4. Can be a high maintenance

Bald cypress

1. State tree.
2. Bronze fall color.
3. Very durable tree.
4. Fine textured foliage.

1. Can produce "knees".
2. Defoliating insects can attack.
3. Knees can cause problems with mowers and home slabs.
4. Can be high maintenance.

Yellow Poplar

1. Fast growing shade tree.
2. Good form.
3. Yellow autumn color.

1. Gets aphids.
2. Susceptible to root rot.
3. Gets leaf spot diseases.

Southern Red Oak

1. Moderate rate of growth.
2. Excellent shade tree.
3. Long-lived tree.
4. Reddish-brown fall color.

1. Acorns can be messy.
2. Leaves fall in winter.
3. Does not like heavy clay soils.

Shumard Oak

1. Excellent shade tree.
2. Red autumn color.
3. Sturdy tree.

1. Acorns can be messy.
2. Leaves fall in winter.
3. Does not like heavy clay soils.

Drake Elm

1. Fast growing shade tree.
2. Relatively small tree.
3. Unique bark/trunk features.

1. Support needed first few years.
2. Elm leaf beetles attack tree.
3. Zonate disease can kill tree.



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WHY Plant Trees?

Trees are cool-ing! "The net effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day," - U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Trees contribute to community wide pride, help people relax and add natural beauty to the community through different forms, colors and textures. Landscaping with trees can increase property value by as much as 20 percent.

The roots of a tree play a very important role in keeping our waters free of pollutants by acting as a filter. The roots of a tree also stabilize the soil to prevent coastal land loss and help reduce the strength of winds and the force of the waves from a hurricane.

Trees also help reduce air pollution and global warming by maintaining the balance of oxygen and carbon in the atmosphere and lessen the evaporation of rainwater.

Vocabulary

bark - the tough covering of a woody stem or root.

cambium - parallel rows of cells that form new layers of bark and wood.

sapwood - wood that lies between the cambium and the heartwood. It acts as a major conductor of water and minerals for the tree.

carbon dioxide - a colorless, odorless, incombustible gas that is formed during respiration, combustion, and organic decomposition.

root ball - the section of roots gathered with original soil from plant gathered for transplanting.

maintenance - A follow up activity that will lengthen the life and add to the beauty of a plant. Such as watering, shaping, force blooming and fertilizing.



habitat - the place an animal or plant normally lives.

deciduous - a plant that sheds or loses foliage at the end of the growing season.

roots - the tree parts below the ground that hold the tree. They absorb moisture and nutrients.

chlorophyll - the green substance found in leaves and needles.

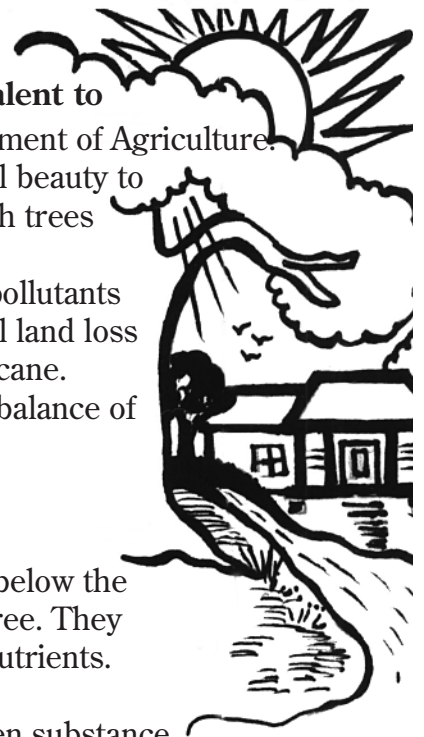
conifer - bearing cones and having needle-shaped leaves.

oxygen - an element found freely in nature that is necessary for humans and animals to breathe. It is needed for all combustion to occur.

fertilizing - feeding plants nutrients.

drought - seasons with very little rainfall which create stress on plants.

pruning - clipping or cutting away at dead, diseased or dying parts of a plant to make healthy, change it's shape or force bloom.



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Tree of Knowledge

Across

1. The state tree of Louisiana
2. Plants that thrive in their natural environment are called...
5. Hanging heavy items on a tree branch will cause it to ...
6. The parish in which we live is named...
7. Parts of a tree located below the surface of the ground that absorb moisture and nutrients are the...
10. Parts of a tree that features leaves and provides a place for birds to nest

Down

1. Tree type that bears cones and has needle shaped leaves
3. Elm, Oak or Cypress is a variety of this...
4. The state flowering tree of Louisiana
8. Place where animals and insects live in their natural environment
9. A product sometimes made from trees

Key Words

branches	broadleaf	native
habitat	tree	baldcypress
medicine	Terrebonne	conifers
roots	magnolia	break

Trees make a World of Difference!

Trees shade and cool our homes, bring songbirds close by and mark the changing seasons. Kids climb or build tree houses in their branches. Trees provide lumber, food and countless products, while they beautify our communities.

But equally important, trees conserve energy, reduce soil emissions, clean the air we breathe and help protect our bayous and coastal areas. If trees are to provide all of these benefits we need to care for the trees we have and plant many more that are native to our area.

Native American Lore:

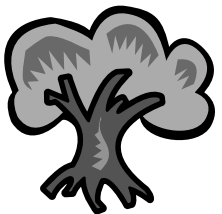
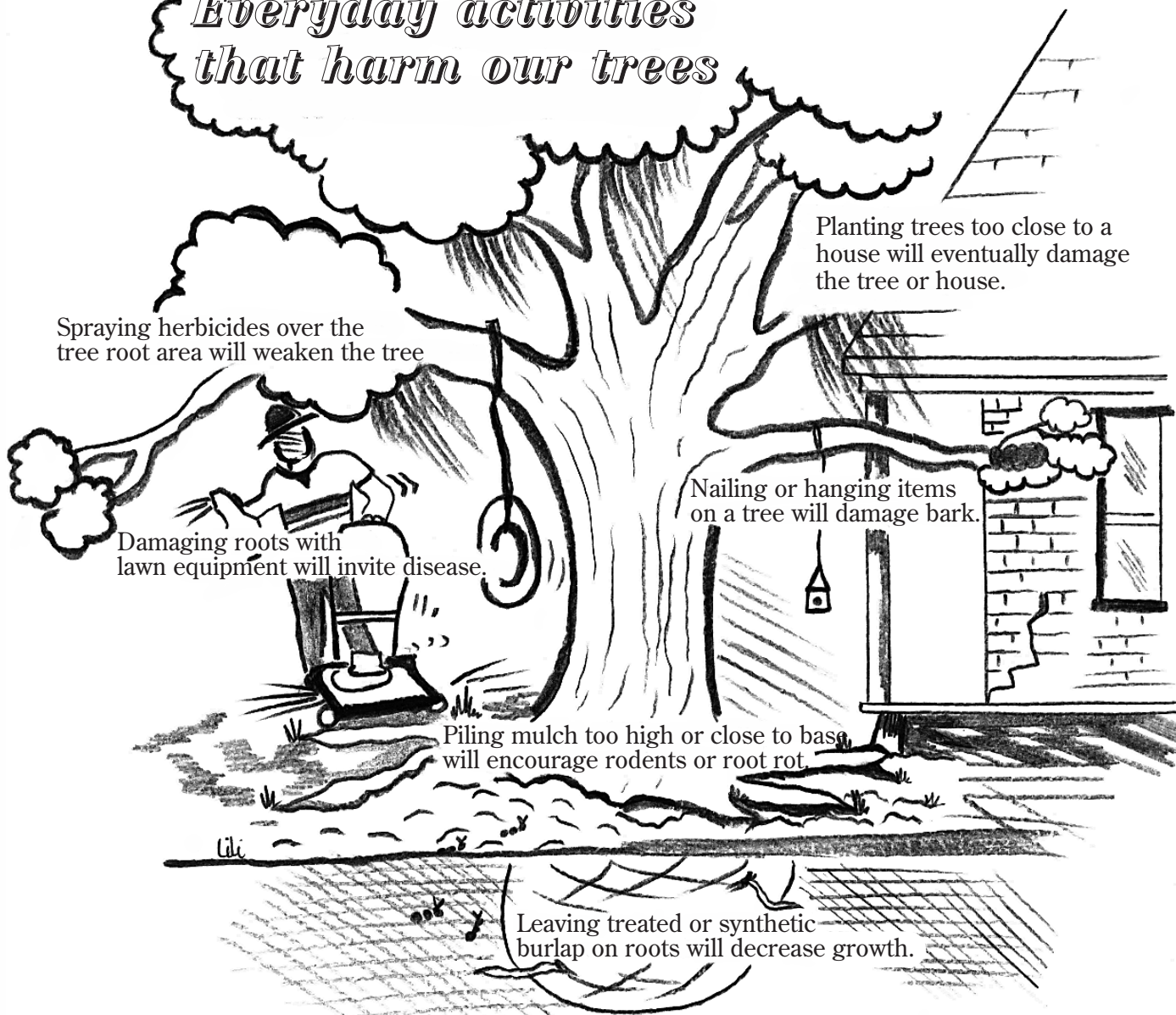
Remember that it is only polite to thank a tree when you have used its parts. Make a habit of giving back to the trees. Feed your tree a meal of fertilizer or give it a drink during hot weather. Or a simple prayer spoken that the tree and its relations always have abundant sunshine, pure water to drink, healthy winds, and the companionship of birds and other friendly habitat.



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Everyday activities that harm our trees



Conclusion

_____ tree has been selected because

Find more information on the Web:

www.ncforestry.org

www.americanforests.org/resources

http://www.wildkids.org.uk/woodland/tree_measure.htm

www.arbordayfarm.org

www.arborday.org./trees



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