Smart Trees & Shrubs
for the Missoula area

CLIMATE SMART
MISSOULA

We love trees and shrubs - for all the myriad benefits they provide. They sequester carbon, keep us healthy and happy, filter pollutants from the atmosphere, help with stormwater management, provide urban habitat for birds and other critters, and, most importantly, keep us cool in the hot summer months.

Planting shade trees and shrubs near your home or business can reduce energy costs and keep buildings cool, especailly if planted on the south or west side. **But what to plant?**

A few recommendations:

It's good to plant native species or those that are "close to natives". These "close to" come from ecotypes near to Missoula and are known to do well with our environmental conditions. You will need to add water to establish your seedlings (first 2 years) and during the hot, dry summer months. Depending on where you live you many need to fence the deer out until the trees or shrubs are tall enough to withstand some browsing.

Conifers:
- western larch (a soft conifer that loses its needles every fall)
- ponderosa pine
- Douglass fir
- limber pine

Shrubs:
- alderleaf buckthorn (*Rhamnus alnifolia*)
- blue elderberry (*Sambucus cerulea*)
- common chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)
- golden currant (*Ribes aureum*)
- ocean spray (*Holodiscus discolor*)
- red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)
- serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
- tri-lobed sumac (*Rhus trilobata*)
- water birch (*Betula occidentalis*)

Hope that helps!
Check out the Missoula Native Plant Society, Blackfoot Nursery, Native Yards, National Wildlife Federation, etc. for more information

Let us know YOUR recommendations!

Deciduous:
- bur oak (not native but stately and shady)
- quaking aspen (though note that they spread by under ground roots and will spread. You can grow a forest or keep them mowed back, but they sprout anew).
- narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*)

Vines:
- Clematis - Western white clematisis native and there are other non-native varieties that can work well.

Avoid:
- Spruce species. They have shallow roots and topple easy
- Non-native Maple Trees