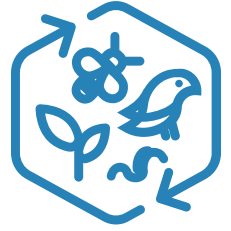


# Native Keystone Trees



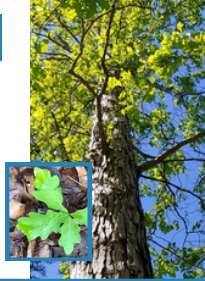
Keystone trees are native trees that provide the most benefits to animals and insects and can help make your property a haven for wildlife. Oak trees can host at least 150 other organisms! Below find the top 10 native keystone trees that are most compatible and most popular in the City of Wilmington, developed by the Wilmington Tree Commission. Information arranged from the Arbor Day Foundation, NC State Extension Gardener, and Commissioner expertise.

## White Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus alba*

**Average Height:** 50-100 ft

**Notes:** Maroon rounded leaves in the fall



## Southern Red Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus falcata*

**Average Height:** 60-80 ft

**Notes:** Prefers dry soils; nice fall color



## Sand Laurel Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus hemisphaerica*

**Average Height:** 50-100 ft

**Notes:** Prefers dry soils; nice fall color



## Turkey Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus laevis*

**Average Height:** 30-40 ft

**Notes:** Prefers dry soils; strong fall colors; leaf shaped like turkey claw



## Laurel Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus laurifolia*

**Average Height:** 60-80 ft

**Notes:** Prefers dry to wet soils



## Overcup Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus lyratta*

**Average Height:** 60-80 ft

**Notes:** Prefers wet soils



## Swamp Chestnut Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus michauxii*

**Average Height:** 60-80 ft

**Notes:** Prefers wet to moist fertile soil such as a Bottomland Forest



## Cherrybark Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus pogoda*

**Average Height:** 60-80 ft

**Notes:** Prefers dry soil; strong fall colors



## Willow Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus phellos*

**Average Height:** 50-100 ft

**Notes:** Prefers dry to moist soils; narrow willow-like leaves



## Live Oak

**Scientific name:** *Quercus virginiana*

**Average Height:** 40-80 ft

**Notes:** Moist to dry soils; salt tolerant; handsome; massive; evergreen



We encourage you to call local nurseries to determine if they have native plants in stock as not all businesses are able to stock these plants and some may only be available in certain seasons.

