



Ahh – To Grow A Garden – So Get Up and Get Growing –Taylorsville City - Tree Of The Month Article – November 2008 - Seven (7) Exceptional Trees for Autumn Color – Other Trees with interesting fall color include Ash, Aspen, Dogwood, Shagbark Hickory, Sumac and Tulip Trees.

Maidenhair Tree (Ginkgo Biloba) - A graceful tree with fan-shaped leaves that turn buttery yellow in fall; they drop all at once to create a golden carpet on lawns or paving. The leaves of this tree are very distinctive: "once seen, never forgotten." The bark is gray in color that becomes broken by deep furrows on older trunks. This species is the last living representative of an ancient, pre-historic family of trees that lived 300 million years ago. It can live to be 3,000 years old. It's resistance to smoke, diseases and other destructive factors make it a successful as an ornamental in the United States (US). United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Climate Zone 3 to 8, Height 35 to 45 feet, and 25 to 40 feet wide. (Photos #1 & 2).

Japanese Maple - Variety, versatility and year round beauty secure Japanese Maples, a deserved seat of honor in gardens around the world. They take innumerable shapes offering every possibility of form: dwarf, upright, mounding, rounded, weeping, spreading, and vase with over 1,000 species. At maturity, they reach heights from two to over thirty feet. Most cultivars thrive in full sun, others prefer open shade and some do well in any degree of light in between. Their colors reflect the rainbow. Spring finds most bedecked in shades of pink, orange and red. During the summer, many turn lime-colored or bronze, while others maintain a true red or green. In fall they turn the traditional yellow, gold, orange and scarlet. In fact all maples trees have exceptional fall color, not just Japanese Maples. USDA Climate Zones 5 to 9. (Photos #3 & 4).

Chinese Pistache - A garden-scale tree with a rounded canopy; narrow leaflets give it a lacy appearance. It is a long-lived, winter hardy shade tree with luminous shades spectacular shades of orange, red and gold in the fall. Outstanding heat, drought, soil tolerance, and pest resistant too. It is a near perfect shade tree with showy bark and fruit on female trees, and deep green leaves during the growing season. USDA Climate Zones 6 to 9, Height: 25 to 50 feet tall, and 15 to 25 feet wide. (Photo #5).

Japanese Persimmon - In the fall, the leaves turn vivid yellow, orange or red; after they drop, brilliant orange fruits hang on well into winter. It is a long lived a tree, typically with a rounded canopy. It is called the Chinese plum or when dried Chinese fig, and is native to China where it has been cultivated for 2,000 years, with over 200 varieties. USDA Climate Zones: 6 to 9, Height: 18 to 24 feet tall, and 14 to 16 feet wide. (Photo #6)

Pin Oak - An open, rounded tree, perfect as a shade or ornamental tree. In fall weather, the glossy leaves turn yellow, red and finally russet brown. One of the most popular oak trees for landscaping, the Pin Oak gives you ascending upper branches and drooping lower branches, creating a very pleasing shape. A rapid grower (2-3 feet a year), the Pin Oak can thrive in a variety of soils. A very easy tree to grow that requires little maintenance. Its trunk is smooth when young, and then gently furrows when older, adding to its beauty. Perfect for animal lovers! The Pin Oak's small, round acorns attract wildlife, such as squirrels and birds. In fact all oak trees (Eastern White, Scarlet, English, Red and Pin Oak) have exceptional fall color, not just the Pin Oak. USDA Climate Zones: 2 to 10, Height: 60 to 70 feet, and 25 to 45 feet wide. (Photos #7 & 8)

Sweat Gum - Liquidambar – This tree has a very stout trunk reaching six feet in diameter. It has maple like leaves with a lacy effect. The leaves have five sharply pointed lobes, but are easily distinguished from maples in being arranged alternately, not in opposite pairs. They are a rich dark green and glossy, and in most cases turn brilliant orange, red, and purple colors in the autumn. A small percentage of trees are evergreen or semi-evergreen. Fall color varies by variety. "Palo Alto" has orange-red to bright red leaves. "Festival" turns yellow, peach, pink, orange and red. USDA Climate Zone 4 to 9, Height: 40 to 70 feet, and 25 to 35 feet wide (Photo #9)

River Birch - Birches are full-sun trees that will tolerate partial shade, and a native of the eastern U.S. This tree's exfoliating bark is as attractive as its fall foliage to provide the landscape with beautiful yellow fall foliage. River birch trees shed their bark, as do the paper birches, but their bark does not possess the white color of paper birch trees. River birch trees tolerate the summer heat better than paper birch trees. It is not a long lived tree only living to be about 120 years old. USDA Climate Zone 4 to 9, Height: 40 to 70 feet, and 25 to 35 feet wide. (Photo #10)

