

# Gardening Tips



1. Right plant, right place!  
Make sure the soil, sun, and moisture needs of your plant fits the planting location.
2. Extreme cold and heat can be hard on plants. Choosing plant varieties best suited for the weather allows for higher success. Ask your local nursery for recommendations.
3. Most of Derby contains compact, clay soil. This can be good and bad. Clay contains nutrients needed for healthy plant growth, yet it's too compact for the roots to obtain these nutrients. Each year rototill your garden and add organic matter (compost, leaves, grass clippings) to break up the compact clay soil.
4. Consider testing your soil before planting. If the soil doesn't contain the nutrients needed for proper plant growth then all the work you've put in may go to waste. Begin the process at [bit.ly/kssoiltesting](https://bit.ly/kssoiltesting).
5. There are many varieties of plants. Certain varieties may have different characteristics, such as size, color, bloom time, tolerances (heat, shade, poor soil), or maintenance, etc. Ask your local nursery which plant varieties will work best for your planting location.
6. Make sure the mature size of the plant fits the location.
7. Not sure about something? Google it! There are many gardening resources to help your garden become a success.
8. Remember, location matters. We're Zone 6b with extreme temperatures.

## Planting Questions?

Call the Sedgwick County Master Gardener hotline at **316.660.0100**. Call **811** before you dig.



## Tree & Shrub List & Planting Guide

How to plant trees and shrubs in your landscape to enhance the look and value of your home.

Local information may be found at **[DerbyKS.com/trees](https://DerbyKS.com/trees)** or by calling Derby Public Works at 788.0301.

**Tree Trimming Guidelines**  
[bit.ly/treertrimmingtips](https://bit.ly/treertrimmingtips)

*Provided by the Derby Public Works Department and Parks & Urban Forestry Board*



[DerbyKS.com/trees](https://DerbyKS.com/trees)

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## Recommended Shrubs

### BeautyBerry Bush ●●●

- Bright purple, edible berries that appear in late summer through fall. (More sun = more berries)
- Beautyberry Jelly Recipe: [bit.ly/beautyberry](https://bit.ly/beautyberry)
- Tolerates clay soils.

### Burning Bush ●●●

- Bright red fall color.
- Drought tolerant once established.

### Forsythia ●●●

- Brilliant yellow blooms in early spring.
- Provides a cheerful backdrop, border or centerpiece.

### Inkberry Holly ●●●

- Evergreen. Tougher alternative to Boxwoods.
- Higher water needs.
- Works well in moist locations like around ponds and water features.

### Nandina ●●●

- Evergreen.
- Beautiful purple to reddish-purple in fall and winter (better color in full sun).
- Drought tolerant once established.

### Ninebark ●●●

- Unique bark which peels back in thin layers as the branches mature.
- Flowers in spring with clusters of white or pink blooms (more sun = more blooms).
- Tolerates clay soils. Drought tolerant once established.

### Rose of Sharon ●

- Hardy hibiscus flower. Get a taste of the tropics.
- Blooms summer to fall. Many colors options.
- Tolerant of urban conditions, heat, humidity, poor soil, and drought.
- Will self-seed and spread on its own.
- New varieties are thornless with double flowers.



## Recommended Trees for Derby

### Arizona Cypress - Evergreen ●

- Beautiful minty green color.
- Tolerant of hot and dry conditions.
- Size: 30-40 feet tall & 15-25 feet wide

### Catalpa - Large white flowers ●●

- Large white, showy flowers in spring and summer.
- Tolerant of a wide range of soils.
- Produces seed pods that require cleanup.
- Size: 40 feet tall & 20 feet wide

### Chinese Juniper - Evergreen ●

- Most disease resistant Juniper.
- Very drought tolerant.
- Size: 40 feet tall & 20 feet wide

### Coral Bark Maple - Red bark ●●

- Bright red bark that intensifies in winter.
- Enjoys moist soil.
- Lime green color in summer, yellow in fall.
- Size: 15-20 feet

### Ginkgo - Plant a living fossil ●●

- A tree species dated to be 200 million years old.
- Gorgeous yellow fall color.
- Long-living, drought and pest resistant.
- Size: depends on variety



### Magnolia - Evergreen ●●●

- Large, fragrant, white flowers in spring and summer.
- Adaptable to many locations.
- Size: depends on variety

### Red Maple - "Best Loved Tree" ●●●

- Considered America's best loved tree.
- Bright red fall color.
- Tolerates many types of soils.
- Size: 30-40 feet tall & 15-30 feet wide

### Smoke Tree - Drought tolerant ●

- Small tree with purple-pink smokey plumes with purple leaves.
- Yellow, orange, or purplish-red in fall.
- Size: 10-15 feet

### Sourweed - Loved by Bees ●

- White fragrant flowers in early summer.
- Rich green leaves turning yellow, red, and purple in fall.
- Used by bees to produce highly prized honey.
- Size: 20-30 feet tall & 15-20 feet wide

### Tartarian Maple - Fast Grower ●●●

- Great tree for a small back yard.
- Excellent yellow and red fall color.
- Fast grower and can live 150 years.
- Size: 15-20 feet