



CHINESE ELM (*Ulmus parvifolia*)

If you are looking for a low maintenance shade tree, something a little different than the more common maples or oaks, for instance, one good option might be a Chinese or Lacebark elm. Chinese elms are easy to transplant, prefer full sun, and perform well in urban areas. They typically reach a height and width of about 40-50'. These trees have a medium-fast rate of growth and have a rather graceful rounded and/or upright spreading growth habit (depending on the cultivar) with pendulous branches.

Chinese elms have a very attractive exfoliating (peeling) bark that is a combination of such mottled colors such as gray, green, brown, and orange. Two recommended cultivars or varieties of Chinese elms are 'Allee' and 'Bosque'. 'Allee' has a more upright spreading growth habit than the straight species and has a subdued yellow fall color. The 'Bosque' Chinese elm has a more pyramidal growth habit and will be a little narrower in width than the species, about 20-30'. It has a yellow-orangish fall color. Either one would be a good choice for a new shade tree for your yard.

