

## Trees for Laurel Hollow

Laurel Hollow has been losing its beautiful shade trees, especially the huge Live Oaks that are so much a part of what makes our community unique. The canopies of these trees have welcomed residents and visitors and provided wonderful cooling shade for our homes, our roads and our outdoor living spaces. We need to replace the trees that are being removed, both for our own well-being today and also for the future.

The following list of trees are being recommended for our community based on the unique characteristics of each species. All of them are found to thrive here in our growing zone 10 and are mostly evergreen. May we suggest that most of these trees can be observed in nearby Blalock Park in Venice where they are labeled and mature. It's a wonderful place to visit!

Going forward we may research smaller ornamental trees and flowering trees but our foremost goal at this time is have more shade trees.

We have many palms in Laurel Hollow and they are wonderful and remind us that we are in Florida but they do not provide us with any shade.

These trees are meant as suggestions to help you in the search for your perfect tree.

For additional information you may check the following sources:

<http://south-florida-plant-guide.com/>

[fsl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants](http://fsl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants)

Submitted by Nanci Bussaglia

on behalf of the Laurel Hollow Garden & Tree committee

‘ Shady Lady’ Black Olive Tree  
(*Bucida bucaras*)

This is a very beautiful medium size tree that matures up to 30 feet with a well-shaped crown. It is evergreen and both salt and wind tolerant and not messy. It bears no fruit and has noninvasive roots. (This is important because we have lost many of our Live Oaks due to the roots undermining walkways, driveways and structures.



Mahogany Tree  
(*Swietenia mahogany*)

This very large (35-40') shade tree has a wide rounded canopy and smallish leaves allowing dappled shade where grass can grow well. It is wind and salt tolerant and semi-deciduous, which means it has leaves year-round but does drop some old leaves during a brief time in spring. Should be planted at least 20' from house to avoid problems with roots. This tree is endangered due to over harvesting for development. It is a Florida native.



Gumbo Limbo Tree  
(*Busera simarula*)

This big and broad branched tree is a native of South Florida and is sometimes called the 'Tourist Tree' because of the beautiful peeling reddish bark which reminds some people of a tourist with a sunburn. Branches twist and turn in the most interesting ways. It is salt and wind tolerant and grows fast up to 30 feet. It does lose some leaves during our short winters.



Japanese Fern Tree  
(*Filicium decipien*)

This is a small shade tree is so pretty with fern-like foliage and a very neat symmetrical shape that needs no pruning. It is a good choice for a smaller yard growing up to 25' tall. It is evergreen year-round and looks quite tropical.



Southern Magnolia  
(*Magnolia grandiflora*)

These stately trees can grow up to 90' but there are many cultivars that are more appropriate for smaller yards. They have lustrous evergreen foliage and creamy white fragrant flowers that can be as large as a dinner plate. The cultivar 'Little Gem' grows only to 30' with dark green foliage and an oval shape. It's smaller size make it suitable for smaller spaces.



