

# Very Large Shrubs

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This group of shrubs gets 12 - 20 plus feet in height. Most could be used as or considered to be small trees. They will need a space of 8 to 12 feet or greater. The height and spread info was gathered from personal observations and reliable references. Remember that these are only suggestions and can vary widely depending on growing conditions.

Best used as specimen plants, small trees, large corner plantings or in shrub borders. Never near the foundation of a house.

### Key to the chart

1. The first column is data about the specific plant or the genus
2. Second column is a list of cultivars or similar plants in the genus
3. Most plants are linked back to [www.plantstogrow.com](http://www.plantstogrow.com)
4. stars\*\*\*
  - \*\*\* has been a proven winner for me
  - \*\* has been a proven winner but with a few problems
  - \* has not been a good plant for me
  - no star means I have not grown it or used it but have seen it enough times in the same place and feel confident about giving it a try
5. Colors
  - orange – I have grown this or used it in landscape jobs
  - blue – I have observed it enough times and feel confident to use it
  - red – not a good plant

<u>Amelanchier cv (June Berry, Service Berry***)</u>	
15-25 feet in height white flowers in the early spring, followed by edible berries smooth gray bark fall color from yellow to red grows best in ½ day sun, moist sites good for naturalizing next to springs near woods birds love the fruit of this tree, they strip my plants clean before I have a chance to pick the fruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry</a>-the plants in my yard are 12-14 feet by 10-12 and still growing, I love these plants</li> <li>• <a href="#">Prince Charles Service Berry</a>-20-25 feet by ½ or more of the height</li> <li>• <a href="#">Princess Diana Service Berry</a></li> </ul>

<u><a href="#">Acer ginnila</a></u> (Amur Maple <sup>***</sup> )	
grown as a small tree or a large shrub there are compact cultivars available great fall foliage new foliage can have a bronze tint somewhat prunable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Flame-more uniform red foliage color</li> </ul>
<u><a href="#">Caragana arborescens</a></u> (Siberian Pea Shrub)	
15-20 feet tall very prunable to a smaller size I have seen this pruned to medium size hedges green leaves yellow flowers a tough plant	
<u><a href="#">Cornus alternifolia</a></u> (Pagoda Dogwood <sup>**</sup> )	
15'-25' by 1 to 1 1/2 times it height for spread small flowers followed by blue black fruit has strong horizontal branching grows best in moist soil that is partially shaded either a large shrub or a small tree yellow flowers appear on leafless branches	
<u><a href="#">Corylus maxima Purpurea</a></u> (Giant Purple Filbert)	
10-15 by 10-15 purple foliage full sun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Purple Haze American Filbert</a></li> </ul>
<u><a href="#">Cotinus</a></u> (Smoke Bush)	
10'-15' by equal spread the purple leaf types are the most popular the flowers are like puffs of smoke in southeastern Wisconsin this plant can suffer winter kill but will usually sucker back from the base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Royal Smoke</a>-dark purple leaves</li> <li>• <a href="#">Velvet Cloak</a> –</li> <li>• <a href="#">American Smoke Tree</a>- very large, green foliage</li> </ul>
<u><a href="#">Euonymus alatus</a></u> (Burning Bush)	
10'+ by 10', reported to reach 20' grown for its red fall color it can be pruned to be kept to most any size I drive past a plant that is at least 6-8' in height and a spread of over 10' grows in full sun to shade but to me the best fall foliage comes from plants in full sun	
<u><a href="#">Euonymus europaeus</a></u> (Spindle Tree)	
12-20+ by 10+ grown basically for its seed capsules an upright shrub or small tree full sun to part shade cultivars have much larger and brighter fruit	

native to Wisconsin	
<u>Heptacodium miconioides</u> (Seven Son Flower)	
10-15 feet tall white flowers, fragrant exfoliating foliage an under used plant I have seen plants visited by dozens of flutterbies ( butterflies)	
<u>Lonicera tartarica</u> (Honeysuckle)	
a shrub that has been widely planted around the parks and roads of Milwaukee County but because of its invasion into the native planting and the onslaught of the Russian aphid, this shrub should not be used in the landscape	
<u>Prunus cistena</u> (Purple Leaf Sand Cherry*)	
large shrub almost a single stem tree full sun reddish leaves pink short lived lots of problems trying using some Physocarpus cultivars as replacements	
<u>Rhus typhina</u> (Staghorn Sumac)	
15+ tall this plant spreads very rapidly by suckers and it can be very invasive widely planted as ground cover along the freeways in Milwaukee I have seen individual plants in Muskego and Madison that probably approach 16- 20 feet have beautiful fall foliage of red because of its suckering habit use with care	
<u>Syringa</u> (Lilac***)	
8-15'+ by 8-10+ plants at my sons house are over 12 feet full sun is best grown primarily for its flowers forms thick over grown clumps there are hundreds of cultivars giving a wide range of colors old plants can be thinned and pruned to single stems to create interesting effects will take more than a few years to reach this size	
<u>Tamarix ramosissima</u> (Pink Cascade)	
10-15' upright growing fine textured, loose light green foliage large rose pink flowers in June this plant is best grown in a group with other	

<p>plants, since it is rather loose and uneventful by itself I have seen this shrub use very effectively when combined with other plants of dark</p>	
<p><u><a href="#">Viburnum lentago</a></u> (Nannyberry**)</p>	
<p>15-20 by 8-10 tall upright shrub native full sun is best white flowers, bluish black berries unpredictable red in the fall foliage seems to get a lot of powdery mildew like the Common Purple lilac a plant in my back yard is over 16 feet tall</p>	
<p></p>	

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