



**VILLAGE OF MEDINA**  
**MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD**  
600 MAIN STREET MEDINA, NEW YORK 14103

*"Roots in the past, planting for the future."*

## **Other Terrific Trees Besides Maples.**

*Liquidambar styraciflua* **America Sweetgum**

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*Quercus macrocarpa. Liquidambar styraciflua. Cercis canadensis.* I'm no Latin major! What the heck are those? Translation: Bur Oak, Sweetgum, and Eastern Redbud. Three terrific possible trees to consider when selecting what to plant- and there are many, many more to choose from. Over the next few articles, you'll be introduced to several different varieties of trees- something else besides the old standby maple! In the past four years, many of the varieties you'll see here have already been planted at various sites throughout the village.

### ***Liquidambar styraciflua* American Sweetgum**

This is a magnificent tree for many reasons- shape and color of leaf, interesting bark, and especially fall color. Sweetgum is considered a medium to large tree, so it cannot be planted under utility wires and should have a reasonable amount of space to develop. It is a good all-around tree that will thrive in most conditions. It is pyramidal while young, but matures to a large oval when mature with a straight trunk. It can grow to a height of 50' and may spread to 40', and has a medium to fast growth rate, generally around 10" to 12" a year. The leaves emerge a week or two later than most and are a glossy, deep green star shape. The color can be variable in the fall, but is usually a combination of yellow, red, orange, and purple tones. The bark is gray, with corky furrows. Cold hardy varieties are best for our area, and include Gold Dust® ("Goduzam"), Grandmaster™ ("Grazam"), "Moraine", or "Worplesdon".



American Sweetgum Oregon State University/Dept. Of Horticulture



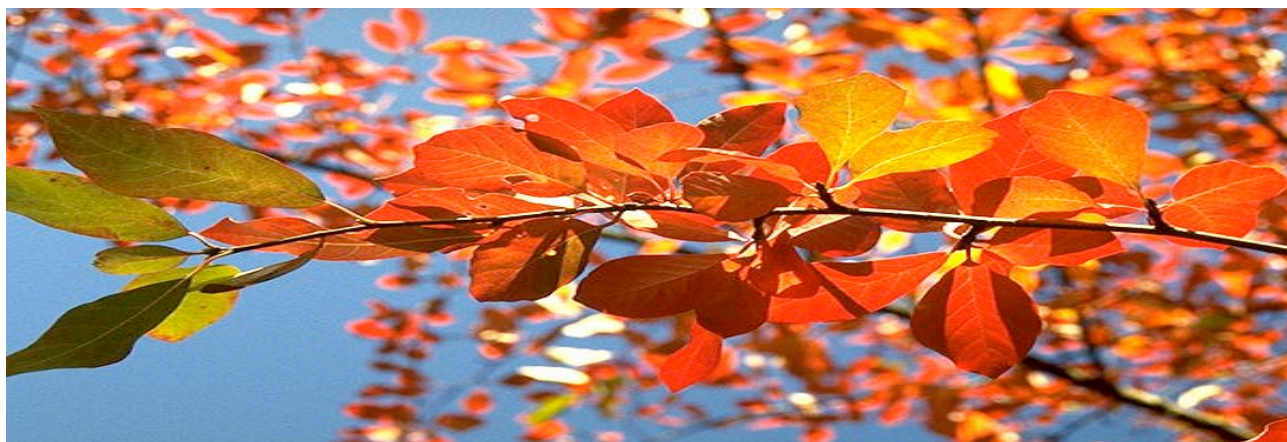
American Sweetgum Oregon State University/Dept. Of Horticulture

## *Nyssa sylvatica* Black Gum

Another beautiful tree with show-stopping fall color is the Black Gum, also known as Tupelo or Sour Gum. Black Gum is also considered a medium to large tree, so it cannot be planted under utility wires. It may grow to a height of 40' with a spread of 30'. In the wild they can grow much larger. It also is a good all-around tree that will thrive in most conditions. It is pyramidal while young, but matures to irregular round or oval when mature. The growth rate is considered slow to medium, but with proper care can be faster. Leaves are smaller oval shaped, glossy green, and turn bright red in fall. The glossy red fall color is magnificent. This is a tree that should be planted more often.



**Black Gum** North Carolina State University/Dept. Of Horticulture



**American Sweetgum** Oregon State University/Dept. Of Horticulture