

KCAB Approved Plant List for Landscaping and Construction

1. Goals – The purpose of this document is to provide guidance regarding the planting of any trees or landscape at the Cincinnati Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG). The main goal is avoid planting trees in a manner that would attract wildlife to roosting areas for specifically European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*). Large flocks of these birds are attracted to certain varieties and layouts of landscape in the fall and winter and pose a significant risk to aircraft flying in and out of CVG. Other species of concern are Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*) and mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*) these species are in particular specifically pertaining to grass seed and ground cover. In order to provide a safe environment for passengers and aircraft the following guidelines should be used for all new planting of landscape, tree species and grass.
2. Spacing – Tree spacing is important in the preplanning process and is a great technique to reduce habitat for European starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) and other black birds. Blackbirds like to roost in areas with a “constant canopy” this is easily avoided by planting trees at distances of the maximum width of the tree at twenty years divided by two. For example if a Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) is expected to be 20 Ft. wide at 20 years then the trees should be planted no less than 10 feet apart. (Spread at 20 Years / 2). This spacing is not the same for trees that are to be planted next to structures (See Location Section).
3. Wind Block – In line with spacing, “wind blocks” should also be taken into account when planting trees. Trees should not be planted in areas where the wind is significantly blocked on more than one side. Blackbirds will tend to roost in trees of any species when a significant wind block is present. Wind blocks can include structures, berms, fences or any other significant object that provides protection to the trees from wind.
4. Location – The location of the tree species is almost as important as the species itself, trees of any species planted adjacent to a building or structure can be very attractive to roosting blackbirds. Significant spacing between structures and any tree species should be taken into account when planting.
5. Fruit Producing – Fruit producing trees will not be permitted to be planted on KCAB property.
6. Nut / Seed Producing – Nut and Seed producing trees should be planted in minimal numbers and should be considered when other species are not suitable for a location.
7. Approval – Any species that do not appear on the approved plant list for the KCAB can be added if approved by the KCAB. A form will be provided with all required information for submitting a species for addition to the approved list. Once approved the species will be added to the permanent list.
8. Removal – Any tree species that have been approved, planted and begin to attract an unsafe amount of wildlife should be removed or replaced immediately.
9. Species List – The following species of trees, plants, and grass have been approved by KCAB. This list should be provided to all contractors before the planning or purchase of any species.

Deciduous Trees

Maple - (*Acer* sp.)

Birch - (sp.)

Beech - (sp.)

Oak - (*Quercus* sp.)

Katsuratree (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*)

Ginko (Maidenhair tree, male only) (*Ginko biloba*)

Common Baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*)

Japanese Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*)

Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostrobides*)

October Glory Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)

Marshall's Seedless Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) 'Marshall's Seedless'

Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Moraine Seedless Honey Locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) var. 'Moraine Thornless'

Village Green Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*) 'Village Green'

Evergreen Trees

Green Giant Arborvitae (sp.)

Spring Grove Arborvitae (sp.)

Emerald Green Arborvitae (sp.)

Ornamental Trees

Trident Maple *Acer buergerianum*

Amur Maple *Acer ginnala*

Chinese Redbud *Cercis chinensis*

Common Smoketree 'Velvet Cloak' *Cotinus coggygria*

Eastern Redbud *Cercis canadensis* Chinese

Pistache *Pistacia chinensis* Japanese Crape

Shrubs / Grasses / Groundcover

Shrubs and grasses under 3 Feet tall are all considered acceptable unless conducive to wildlife roosting or an increase in wildlife.

Grass Seed Mixture

The grass seed mixture for all large construction projects on KCAB property is:

80% Tall Fescue (sp.)

20% Italian Ryegrass (Lolium multiflorum)

The grass seed mixture for all small landscape projects on KCAB property is: Turf grass Mix

Grass Seed Cover / Grass Seed Application

Grass seed should be applied through hydro seeding, drilling, or SOD. The preferred method of seeding at KCAB is drilling seed covered with hydro seed.

Loose Wheat Straw is **prohibited** for use for grass seed cover on all KCAB property.