

**Magnolia ‘Elizabeth’** This cultivar is the result of a cross between *M. acuminata* and *M. denudata*, is pyramidal in growth, and reaches 30’ in height. The fragrant flowers appear before the leaves emerge and are a beautiful, uniform, creamy yellow. They appear in late April and are 7” across.

**Magnolia ‘Judy Zuk’** This upright, yellow-flowered, magnolia honors Judy Zuk, former Director of the Scott Arboretum and President of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Its flowers are deep yellow with a pink flush and fruity fragrance. They bloom in early spring as the new leaves emerge. It will grow to 28’ tall with a spread of 8’.

**Magnolia ‘Lois’** Fragrant, lemon-yellow flowers cover this small tree in mid- to late spring. Grows 12’ tall and 8’ wide with an upright, globose habit.

**Magnolia ‘Ivory Chalice’** A cross between *M. acuminata* and *M. denudata*, this plant produces attractive flowers up to 6” across with cream-colored tepals. It will withstand temperatures to -20°F and grow 30’-40’ tall. *Summer border near Old Tarble*

**Magnolia ‘Spectrum’** The result of a cross between *M. liliiflora ‘Nigra’* and *M. sprengeri ‘Diva’*, this plant has an oval growth habit and 10”-12” deep reddish-purple colored flowers. It can surpass 30’ tall and spread 15’-30’.

**The Little Girl Hybrids**

The eight “Little Girl” hybrids are predominantly the result of a cross between *M. liliiflora ‘Nigra’* and *M. stellata ‘Rosea’*. Each selection functions in the landscape as a large shrub with dimensions of 15’ by 15’. Each shrub has flowers comprised of pointed, narrow tepals, which appear before the foliage in spring. Our collection has four of the eight hybrids.

‘Ann’ has deep purplish-red tepals that fade at the base. The 2”- 4” across flowers are the first of the “Little Girls” to appear.

‘Betty’ has tepals that are dark reddish-purple on the outside and lighter on the inside. The flowers are 8” in diameter.

---

**About the Scott Arboretum**

The Scott Arboretum is a green oasis uniquely situated on the Swarthmore College campus. Over 300 acres create the College landscape and provide a display of the best ornamental plants recommended for Delaware Valley gardens.

Established in 1929 as a living memorial to Arthur Hoyt Scott, Class of 1895, through a gift from his family, the Arboretum continues to thrive today. There are over 4,000 different kinds of plants grown on the campus, selected for their outstanding ornamental qualities, ease of maintenance, and resistance to disease. Major plant collections include: flowering cherries, crabapples, hollies, lilacs, magnolias, tree peonies, rhododendrons, hydrangeas, conifers, vines, summer flowering shrubs, viburnums, and witchhazels.

Maps and specialized brochures on plants growing on the campus are available at the Arboretum office, which also houses a horticultural reference library. The Arboretum is open from dawn to dusk year-round. Admission is free.

The Arboretum is supported in part by the Associates of the Scott Arboretum, a membership group. Join today and enjoy an array of fun and educational events year-round. For additional information, call 610-328-8025, Monday through Friday, 8:30 to noon and 1:00 to 4:30.


---

**THE SCOTT ARBORETUM OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE**

500 College Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081

www.scottarboretum.org
Magnolias at the Scott Arboretum

Magnolias have long been popular ornamental trees. As a group, they offer magnificent flowers appearing from early spring through the summer months. The Scott Arboretum's magnolia collection, begun in 1930, now has over 150 different taxa represented. The original magnolia collection area is located along Route 320, next to the Benjamin West House. Now, the magnolia collection includes all magnolias planted throughout the Arboretum. Locations are noted for species not in the original magnolia collection area.

Cultural Information

Most magnolias are naturally understory plants and grow well in the shade. They will, however, thrive and often flower better when placed in sunny areas. While some magnolias tolerate moist conditions, most prefer a well-drained soil rich in organic matter. Since magnolias are somewhat brittle, they should be placed in an area protected from strong winds. Snow protection is also important because heavy, wet snows can easily break branches, especially on evergreen magnolias.

Magnolias generally require little pruning. Corrective pruning should be done when broken or diseased branches are first observed. Magnolias also sucker from the roots; these shoots should be pruned each winter. In the case of grafted magnolias, pruning should be done when broken or diseased branches are first observed. Magnolias planted throughout the Arboretum. Locations are noted for species not in the original magnolia collection area.

Species Magnolias

**Magnolia denudata**  
'Swarthmore Sentinel'  
This is a new clone of the Yulan magnolia selected for its particularly upright habit. Like other clones of *M. denudata*, it flowers very early, at the end of March to early April, with large fragrant ivory flowers. The ultimate height is 30-40' tall with a spread of 15'.

**Magnolia grandiflora**  
'D.D. Blanchard'  
(southern magnolia) Native to the southern United States, this dense tree will grow 60'-80' tall. This cultivar has a more pyramidal habit than the straight species. The bold, evergreen leaves are a lustrous dark green on the upper side and covered with fine bronze hairs on the underside. Its large, creamy white flowers are pleasantly fragrant and appear from late June through early July and continue sporadically throughout the summer. North side of the Benjamin West House

**Magnolia macrophylla** subsp. *ashei*  
(Ashe magnolia) This small tree has light green leaves that grow up to 2' long. The fragrant creamy white blossoms appear at the end of the stout branches and consist of 6-8 large tepals. Found in the wild as an understory plant, it has an open spreading habit. Old Tarble

**Magnolia officinalis** var. *biloba*  
(Houpu magnolia) A fast-growing medium sized tree, this Chinese native's large leaves are 8"-16" long and 4"-8" across. The 4"-7" wide, creamy white flowers create a distinctive scent described as antiseptic-like. The bark and buds are valued by the Chinese to use as an herbal remedy for coughs and colds. This variety is cultivated more frequently than the straight species. There is a deep notch at the tip of the leaf, causing it to be two-lobed. Near Chester Road

**Magnolia salicifolia**  
(Japanese willow leaf magnolia) This plant can be found as a broad spreading, medium-sized tree reaching a height of 50' tall. It produces fragrant, pure white flowers from slender, leafless stems. Its elliptic leaves give off the scent of aniseed and lemon verbena when crushed. The cones begin a rose-pink color and quickly fade to a dull brown. Bond Memorial Hall

**Magnolia stellata** (star magnolia) This small-statured tree reaches 10'-15' tall. It has a dense, oval growth habit. The delicate flowers have 12-18 white tepals and appear in late March before the leaves emerge.  
'Centennial' A multi-stemmed small tree, this plant reaches up to 25' tall with a pyramidal form. The flowers open to 5½" across with 30 or more white tepals. Worth Health Center

**Magnolia virginiana** (sweetbay magnolia) Native to the eastern coast of North America up to southern Massachusetts, this multi-stemmed tree has an open, upright spreading habit and will grow to 40' tall. The semi-evergreen leaves are a lustrous dark green on the upper surface and silvery-white below. The creamy-white flowers are 2"-3" in diameter, have a strong lemon scent and appear from late May to June, as well as sporadically throughout the summer.

‘Henry Hicks’  
This is a selection of *Magnolia virginiana* var. *australis*, the southern variety of Magnolia virginiana. A single or multi-trunked form, it is noted for its dense, persistent evergreen leaves, which are small with a leathery appearance. ‘Henry Hicks’ was selected at the Scott Arboretum in 1967; the name honors a famous New York nurseryman whose daughter attended Swarthmore College. Scott Entrance Garden

Hybrid Magnolias

**Magnolia x kewensis**  
A cross between *M. kobus* and *M. salicifolia*. 'Wada's Memory', a stunning result of this cross, is a large tree reaching up to 40' tall. This selection is known for its upright, cone-shaped habit and spectacular flower display. The young white tepals droop, rather than stand upright, and form a flower up to 7" across. Bloom time is late March to early April.

**Magnolia x loebneri**  
A cross between *M. stellata* and *M. kobus*. This hybrid will mature to 20'-30' tall and wide. The fragrant white flowers appear before the leaves in late March. 'Leonard Messell' displays long, spaced tepals that are soft pink on the outside and white inside.

**Magnolia x soulangeana** (saucer magnolia) A cross between *M. denudata* and *M. liliiflora*, this plant has an upright form and reaches 20'-30' tall at maturity. The flowers range from white to pink to purplish and appear in late March before the leaves emerge. This medium-sized tree is good for use near buildings or with groupings of other magnolias. (cover photo)

‘Alexandrina’  
The flowers of this cultivar appear earlier than the species and have 4" tepals, which have a distinct peach tone. ‘Amabilis’  
This cultivar sports rounded tepals, which are creamy-white in color.