Hackberry
*Celtis occidentalis*

Hackberry is a medium, deciduous tree with a mature height and spread of 40 to 60 feet. Excellent for wildlife, it is also useful for landscaping. Appropriate for medium yards, the upward arching limbs add beauty to any yard. Several minor pests may affect this species, though most do not cause problems. Only the Eriophyid mite, which causes “witches brooms” is of concern. The purple drupe may be a problem for some locations. The cultivar “Prairie Pride” is a great choice with its resistance to having “witches brooms” and less fruit.

**Image: Texas A&M Forest Service**


**ANSI A300 - The Standard for Tree Care Practices**

Prior to 1991, various industry associations and practitioners developed their own standards and recommendations for tree care practices. Recognizing the need for a standardized, scientific approach, green industry associations, government agencies and tree care companies agreed to develop consensus for an official American National Standard.

Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) was accredited as a standards developing organization with ASC A300 as the consensus body on June 28, 1991. ASC A300 meets regularly to write new, and review and revise existing ANSI A300 standards. Each Part of the standard is reviewed, and if necessary, revised every five years. The committee includes industry representatives with broad knowledge and technical expertise from residential and commercial tree care, utility, municipal and federal sectors, landscape and nursery industries, and other interested organizations.

Currently, there are ten parts to the ANSI A300 Standard. The year listed after the part is the current “year” of the standard, prior years are now considered out of date. Parts 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are in some state of review and possibly revision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Part 1)-2017 Pruning</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 2)-2018 Soil Management a. Modification, b. Fertilization</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 3)-2013 Supplemental Support Systems</td>
<td>Project Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 4)-2014 Lightning Protection Systems</td>
<td>Project Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 5)-2012 Management of Trees and Shrubs during Site</td>
<td>Revision in process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 6)-2012 (R2018) Planting and Transplanting</td>
<td>Reaffirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 7)-2018 Integrated Vegetation Management</td>
<td>Revision in process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 8)-2013 Root Management</td>
<td>Project Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 9)-2017 Tree Risk Assessment</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Part 10)-2016 Integrated Pest Management</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You are encouraged to keep and use the current copy of each part of the A300 standard. They are available from the TCIA Online store or ISA Shop. The key is to check this table to see what the current standard is prior to purchase to make sure you get the correct one. See this list at: [www.tcia.org/TCIA/BUSINESS/ANSI_A300_Standards_/Current_Projects/TCIA/BUSINESS/A300_Standards/Current_Projects.aspx](http://www.tcia.org/TCIA/BUSINESS/ANSI_A300_Standards_/Current_Projects/TCIA/BUSINESS/A300_Standards/Current_Projects.aspx).

ISA has developed a set of Best Management Practices (BMP) guides as companion documents to many of the A300 Parts. These are valuable in interpreting some of the standards into daily practices. They are available on the ISA Store.

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**Arbor Day Events and Tree City USA / Tree Line USA Awardees**

Arbor Day is celebrated every year by many across the world. The actual day of individual celebrations varies with the best time to plant trees in that locality and when convenient for that community.

The official Arbor Day for Missouri is the First Friday of April, this year is April 5, 2019. National Arbor Day is the Last Friday in April, this year April 26, 2019.

Arbor Day events vary by community desire and design. Some are simple, some are large events. It is all up to the community as to what they desire and can do. This year I know of the following Arbor Day events:

- **April 4 - 1 PM**
  - Pineville, Community Center, 602 Jesse James Rd.,
  - Carthage - Intermediate School - Hwy HH and Precious Moments
  - Joplin - Landreth Park

Each of these Cities will be recognized as earning Tree City USA status. Carthage Water and Electric and Liberty Utilities - Empire District will be recognized as earning Tree Line USA status. Awards will be presented at appropriate events.

- **April 20 - 9 AM**
  - Exeter, City Park

- **April 26 - 9:30 AM**
  - Carthage - Intermediate School - Hwy HH and Precious Moments

- **April 27 - 10 AM**
  - Joplin - Landreth Park
Web Review - Tree Care Tips

The Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) has created and maintain a website aimed at homeowners called “Treecaretips”. This site is full of helpful articles for homeowners on various tree topics. It is written to make it easy for the reader to understand and where to get help when needed. See it at: https://treecaretips.org.

Stem Girdling Roots

Stem girdling roots are a common issue with planted trees. It rarely, if ever, happens in nature. Stem girdling roots are roots that grow up against the trunk of the tree. It often is an issue that does not show its effect until many years, often decades, after planting. Just about the time the tree is large enough to provide the desired benefits, the tree declines and dies. Stem girdling roots occur due to improper planting practices and modern growing practices at nurseries. Nurseries can reduce girdling roots through the techniques of planting the tree at proper depth in the nursery bed or container. Also, new containers that allow for air root pruning reduce girdling roots in that system. Final transplanting requires tree to be planted at the proper depth of the root flare at or slightly above the surrounding soil level and may require cutting roots that are growing in circles and/or back towards the trunk. See more info at: https://conservancy.umn.edu/handle/11299/49810

April 12

April 16
SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 - 10 AM, MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO.

April 25
JMCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin, MO.

April 25 - 27

May 3

May 15

May 21
SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 - 10 AM, MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO.

May 23
JMCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin, MO.

June 8 - 9

June 11

June 18
SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 - 10 AM, MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO.

June 18

June 27
JMCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin, MO.

...be circumspect never to inter your stem deeper than you found it standing; for profound burying very frequently destroys a tree ...

- John Evelyn, SYLVA or A Discourse of Forest Trees , 1664