



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Quercus palustris* (Qpa)

Common Name: Pin oak

Species Description

- Deciduous, but retains leaves through winter
- Tall pyramidal shaped tree with pendulous lower branches
- Grey-brown bark, developing thin ridges and furrows with age
- Green leaves with five to nine lobes and deep u-shaped [sinuses](#), turning rust-red in autumn and retaining the brown foliage through winter
- Male flowers borne on drooping yellow-green [catkins](#) and female flowers borne on short spikes in spring
- Small acorns with thin saucer-like caps

Height and width

18 metres tall by 12 to 15 metres wide

Species origin

Eastern North America

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Suitable for use in parks or open areas where solar access in winter is not an issue

Use considerations

- Very suitable for Canberra's climate and has performed very well in the past
- High frost and drought tolerance
- Grows well in a wide range of soil types and tolerates all drainage conditions
- Grows in full sun to light shade
- [Long lived](#)
- Slow to moderate growth
- Low flammability
- Can require formative pruning when young and lower branch removal as tree matures
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas
- Produces pollen

Examples in Canberra

Schlich Street, Yarralumla; Torrens Street, Braddon; and Carnegie Crescent and Stuart Street, Griffith

Availability

Commercially available

