



Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Ulmus americana* (Uam)

Common Name: American elm

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Vase shaped crown with several large, ascending and arching limbs
- Ashy grey bark with flat-topped ridges
- Leaves are alternate and ovate, turning yellow in autumn
- Small flowers in drooping clusters in spring
- Fruit are rounded, flat, wafer-like samaras

Height and width

20 metres tall by 15 metres wide

Species origin

North America

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Only suitable to be used for the replacement of current plantings because of disease threats
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses

Use considerations

- High frost tolerance and moderate drought tolerance
- Prefers soils with good drainage
- Grows well in full sun and light shade
- [Long lived](#) (see disease note)
- Medium growth rate
- Low flammability
- Highly susceptible to Dutch elm disease, however new cultivars such as 'Valley Forge' are available with good Dutch elm disease resistance
- Produces pollen and is wind pollinated

Examples in Canberra

Grant Crescent, Griffith

Availability

Would require forward ordering

