



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



Small Trees for Roadside Planting in the U.S. Virgin Islands

Common Name	Scientific Name	Adult Height (ft)	Ornamental Flower	Attracts Wildlife	Salt Tolerance	Drought Tolerance	Growth Rate	Unique Characteristic
Autograph Tree	<i>Clusia rosea</i>	35	Yes	Yes	High	High	Slow	Thick leathery leaves, spreading crown and 'upside-down' flowers that attract bees and large upside-down fruit that open and attract bats.
Black Mampoo	<i>Guapira fragrans</i>	35	No	Yes	High	High	Med.	A common native tree with a dark green canopy and tolerant of roadside conditions. Fruit turn red, then black on female trees only and are relished by birds. Older leaves often have harmless brown insect galls.
Button Mangrove	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	35	No	No	Very High	Very High	Med.	Hardy to elements and roadsides. Silver leaf variety available, can be made into a hedge.
Divi-divi	<i>Caesalpinia coriaria</i>	25	No	No	High	Very High	Med.	Small, delicate tree, with a many-branched canopy, often leaning in the wind. The twice pinnate leaves give the tree a 'soft' look.
Fiddle Wood	<i>Citharexylum fruticosum</i>	40	No	Yes	Med.	High	Med.	Light brown trunk with shredding bark. The small tree has small but fragrant white flowers. Juicy reddish-black fruit attract wildlife but can be a nuisance to cars in parking lots. Can become large over time.
Guavaberry	<i>Myrciaria floribunda</i>	40	No	Yes	Med.	High	Slow	Fragrant white flowers and edible black fruit, with attractive smooth bark. Slow growing and does not tolerate caliche soil.
Ironwood	<i>Krugiodendron ferreum</i>	30	No	Yes	Med.	High	Slow	Shiny dark green foliage and black berries that attract birds.
Jamaican Caper	<i>Capparis cynophallophora</i>	20	Yes	Yes	Very High	Very High	Slow	Profuse, showy white to pinkish flowers. The tree has beautiful compact form in full sun and is excellent for wildlife.
Lignum vitae	<i>Guaiacum officinale</i>	30	Yes	Yes	High	Very High	Slow	Showy purple flowers and small yellow fruit and bright red seeds. Famous for its dense, valuable wood. Ornamental but slow.
Orange Manjack	<i>Cordia rickseckeri</i>	35	Yes	Yes	Med.	High	Fast	An upright, multi-stemmed tree with showy orange flower clusters. Endemic to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The tree requires some pruning when young.
Pigeon Berry	<i>Bourreria succulenta</i>	30	No	Yes	Med.	Very Good	Med.	Fragrant white flowers and bright red fruit clusters attract wildlife, but can also be a nuisance to cars in parking lots.
Tyre Palm	<i>Coccothrinax alta</i>	25	No	No	Med.	Med.	Slow	Attractive fan-shaped leaves with silver undersides, skinny trunk. The tree is very slow-growing when young, but is a very attractive, native ornamental palm.
Uverillo	<i>Coccoloba microstachya</i>	25	No	No	Very High	High	Med.	Tough tree, hardy to elements. Like sea grape but smaller.
White Frangipani	<i>Plumeria alba</i>	25	Yes	No	Very High	Very High	Med.	Showy and fragrant white flower clusters with yellow centers. Perfect for dry sites and coastal areas.