Montana Conservation Seedling Nursery

The Montana Conservation Seedling Nursery is a self-funded program within the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC). Our mission is to grow site-specific, quality seedlings for planting projects throughout Montana.

Seedlings Provided

The Montana Conservation Seedling Nursery produces both field-grown bareroot seedlings and greenhouse-grown containerized plants. These seedlings are sold at a low cost to encourage conservation projects across the state.

**Bareroot Seedlings**

Bareroot seedlings are deciduous species grown outdoors in crop beds. They are either 1 or 2 years old. Bareroot seedlings are only available in the spring and are shipped to customers with their roots packed in wet moss to help with survival. They are inexpensive but must be planted shortly after they are acquired.

**Small Container Seedlings**

The Nursery produces numerous species and sizes of container-grown seedlings (see our online catalog). They are available in the spring, but with some coordination may be planted in the fall. Small container seedlings are more forgiving of transplant shock and neglect than bareroot plants. They have a root mass of 10, 24, or 28 cubic inches to meet the needs of your particular planting project.

**Large Container Seedlings**

The Nursery also produces large container seedlings in pots that are 100- or 175-cubic inches and 2.5 or 8 gallons. These seedlings can be planted any time of year as long as they are watered.
Why the Nursery?

We produce a wide variety of species from diverse sites and elevations. Most of our seed is collected by Nursery staff in natural areas across the State of Montana. It is even possible to make a contract with the Montana Conservation Seedling Nursery to grow a specific species with seed that you have collected from your project area.

How to Order

For information on seedling inventory and prices, please visit our website:
www.dnrc.mt.gov/nursery
You can also contact us directly or reach out to your local Conservation District or County Extension Service office for more information. To order seedlings, complete the order form and send it with the required deposit to the nursery. Ordering begins in September. Order early to ensure you get the species you desire. Seedlings are sold on a first-come first-served basis. The minimum order is 150 seedlings for new plantings. For return customers, the minimum order is a single lot size. Seedlings may be picked up at the nursery in Missoula. Orders are also delivered at no additional charge to a drop-point in most counties during April. Shipping seedlings by FedEx is also possible for an additional charge.

Some of the Species available are:

- Ponderosa Pine
- Douglas-fir
- Western Larch
- Rocky Mountain Juniper
- Lodgepole Pine
- Spruce
- Aspen
- Cottonwood
- Willows
- Alder
- Bur Oak
- Amur Maple
- Green Ash
- Hawthorn
- Chokecherry
- Buffaloberry
- Caragana
- Dogwood
- Golden Currant
- Lilac
- Serviceberry
- Sage
- Sedges
- Silverberry

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