

# Hazard Community and Technical College Main Campus

Hazard, KY



## About the Trees

**98 trees, 20 species**

HCTC's tree shade creates an ideal environment for reading, studying, or taking a break between classes. The campus is relatively young, showcases a lot of different tree species, has room for those trees to grow, and also the space for more plantings! Research shows that a view of trees, even through a classroom window, can have stress-relieving effects.

Trees (top 5) mapped at Hazard Community & Tech College

Tree species	# of trees	% total
hawthorne	18	18%
red maple	12	12%
willow oak	11	11%
pin oak	9	9%
shumard oak	7	7%
other	41	42%
total	98	100%

### Overall health



### Species Diversity



### Size Diversity



## Background

In June 2021, the University of Kentucky Urban Forest Initiative (UFI) team and Hazard volunteers mapped trees at the community college and other sites around Hazard. Here is a tree canopy summary of our findings. This effort was part of the UFI Landscape Scale Restoration project.

## Considerations

- HCTC main campus trees are in **good health** and provide numerous **benefits** (e.g. cooling shade, aesthetics) at this higher education campus in Hazard.
- With 20 different species on site, HCTC main campus has high **tree species diversity**, providing resilience to host-specific pests. Future plantings could look to enhance diversity even further, as there are many other species native to the Appalachian Plateaus that could do well here (see Linktree resources on back).
- HCTC campus trees are mostly small to medium in size. **Size diversity** within each species and across a collection of trees is important. HCTC's continued care and maintenance of their maturing trees will ensure a growing canopy for years to come. Properly mulching trees is a simple yet effective method of care.

## Annual tree benefits ... and growing!

**13,681**

gallons of stormwater captured

**523**

ounces of pollution removed

**1,403**

pounds of carbon sequestered

**\$202,301**

replacement value (total, not annual)

# Learn more about your trees and what they do for you!

## Common Hazard trees\*

\*based on 282 trees from 6 sites in 2021



Callery pear



flowering dogwood



white ash



red maple



eastern redbud

Need help identifying trees? Try reaching out to your local extension agent! Many great resources can also be found at [https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/tree\\_id](https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/tree_id). Photos courtesy of Janet James.



## What's best for your yard?

Hazard is located in the Appalachian Plateau ecoregion of Kentucky, known for its mountainous terrain. Whether you'd like a large shade tree or small decorative tree, there are many good choices! When picking a tree, consider:

- available space
- nearby trees
- exposure to elements (sunlight, water, poor soils, winds, roads)

Use the Linktree URL at the bottom of the page, which contains many resources including species suggestions for your region. Check for conflicts with sidewalks, power lines, and underground utilities that will affect your choice.



## Take care of the trees you do have!

Young trees need care during their first few years to become established. Be sure to:

- water regularly, especially during periods of hot, dry weather
- mulch properly with 2"-4" of coarse, organic mulch
  - maintain space between the mulch and the tree trunk
- prune lightly to develop good structure as the tree grows to avoid problems later



Enjoy your trees!

# Downtown, North Main Street

Hazard, KY



## Background

In June 2021, the University of Kentucky Urban Forest Initiative (UFI) team mapped trees at several sites around Hazard, including a section of N. Main St. between City Hall and the Coastal gas station (mapped trees appear as pink dots in above map). Here is a tree canopy summary of our findings. This effort was part of the UFI Landscape Scale Restoration project.

## About the Trees

**33** trees, **5** species

The trees along North Main St. in Hazard are important public trees for pedestrians on the River Arts Greenway and for motorists traveling to and from downtown. This greenspace has ample overlooks to the North Fork Kentucky River, and a number of flowering landscape trees which would create visual appeal, particularly in spring. The largest trees along this stretch were the Callery pear, which is problematic due to this species' tendency to invade native ecosystems.

Trees mapped along North Main St.

Tree species	# of trees	% total
Callery pear	13	39%
flowering dogwood	13	39%
ornamental cherry	4	12%
eastern redbud	2	6%
silky dogwood	7	7%
total	33	100%

## Considerations

- N. Main St. trees are in **good health** and provide a fair number of tree benefits (e.g. visual appeal to downtown) at this important public roadway.
- N. Main St. had **poor species diversity**, largely due to the presence of many Callery pear trees. This species, widely planted in decades past, is now a known invasive species. N. Main St.'s maturing Callery pears are an abundant seed source that birds will readily spread, and can ultimately result in the crowding out of native trees and ecosystems.
- Dogwoods, cherries and redbuds are smaller growing species, ideal on this stretch of road where rooting space is limited and overhead utility wires exist. There are areas where large canopied trees could be planted. With proper care, current trees and those yet to be planted will grow and provide valuable shade to the park and walking path, enhancing the **size diversity** of trees at this important public space.

### Overall health



### Species diversity



### Size diversity



## Beware...Callery pear

Callery pear's beautiful spring bloom led in its widespread planting. Poor structure, resulting in frequent branch failures in wind, snow and ice, and this species' severe threat (KY Exotic Pest Plant Council) to native ecosystems create problems for the health of our community forests.





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