Shade Trees

Today on Gardening in a Minute: shade trees.

When the dog days of summer arrive, shade becomes a coveted commodity. If you'd enjoy having more shade in your landscape, consider planting a shade tree.

A shade tree is any tree grown specifically for shade.

If you choose a large evergreen tree like a live oak or Southern magnolia, you’ll have dense shade year-round.

Deciduous trees will shade your house in summer but allow the sun to warm your house in winter. A few options include Chinese elm, Shumard oak, and sweetgum.

You can plant shade trees at any time of year. Be sure to follow UF recommendations for proper planting practices.

If you plant two small-canopy trees near each other, you’ll have the perfect shady spot to hang a hammock and relax on summer days!

For more information about trees and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.