Ornamental & Fruit Trees for Urban Yards

This is a list of hardy yet attractive fruit and ornamental trees for anyone looking for a small scale windbreak, or simply decorative trees, in urban or semi-urban yards. Suggestions were made by John Ball, SDSU extension forestry specialist, and they are well suited to our soils and climate.

Fruit Trees
- North Star Cherry – only one is needed to produce fruit, and they are the hardiest fruit tree out there for our region.
- Apples – either Haralson or Haralred are good choices, however they will not pollinate each other so you will need another variety (John suggests Frostbite) with either variety. All are great fall apples and easy keeping trees.
- Plums – LaCresent or Toka are very hardy, and if you have one or more of each, they will pollinate each other.

Ornamentals
- Amur Chokecherry, European Mtn Ash, and Prairie Gem Pear are three varieties of attractive, smaller size trees for eye appeal.
- Honeylocust is an excellent choice for a larger shade tree; it is very hardy and survives well. Northern Acclaim is another good choice.
- If you are looking for a very specific type tree, we can always consult with John to find a variety that fits your needs as best as possible.