

Serviceberry

(*Amelanchier spp.* — includes Saskatoon, Autumn Brilliance, Shadblow, and Regent Serviceberry)

Serviceberry is a **small, hardy ornamental tree/shrub** valued for its **white spring flowers, edible berries, excellent fall color, and adaptability**. In Colorado, Serviceberry performs well but is prone to **rust, leaf spot, fire blight, borers, aphids, and environmental stress** in high heat.



AMELANCHIER X GRANDIFLORA 'AUTUMN BRILLIANCE'

Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry

Height: 20'	Foliation: Green
Bark: Smooth	Flower: White
Growth Rate: Medium	Shape: Upright
Flowers: Large	Fruit: Edible purple/blue berries
Spreading	

Distinctive Features: Graceful spring flowers followed by edible berries and bright fall color.

The Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry is another great tree with 4 season interest, with delicate white spring flowers followed by reddish red fruits in June. The tree glows in the fall with a red-orange fall color. It's smooth gray branches add winter interest along with strong structure that resists ice damage.

Midwest Native

SGN Tried and True

ORDERER'S NOTE: Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry is in our catalog. We carry both single stem and multi-stem varieties. It has a slow start as a young plant, but then it takes off, the canopy is very dense. It's a great choice up above the roofs. We love how this tree has something interesting to offer in every season, especially in the summer when the berries are a nice treat in the shade.

106 Spring Rd, Mazon, IL 60444
815.442.2037
www.treecareinc.com
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Seasonal Pest & Disease Calendar

Icons: Spring | Summer | Fall | Winter

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Active Season</u>	<u>Icons</u>
Rust (cedar-serviceberry rust)	Fungus	Spring–Summer	
Leaf spot / Entomosporium	Fungus	Spring–Summer	
Fire blight	Bacteria	Spring–Early Summer	

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Active Season</u>	<u>Icons</u>
Aphids	Insect	Spring–Fall	  
Scale insects	Insect	Spring crawlers; visible year-round	 
Borers (roundheaded / flatheaded)	Insect/borer	Summer	
Sawfly larvae	Insect/defoliator	Spring–Summer	 
Drought/heat stress	Abiotic	Summer–Fall	 

Pest & Disease Guide (Homeowner-Friendly)

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Common Symptoms</u>	<u>Treatment & Management</u>
Rust (Common)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bright orange leaf spots Distorted leaves Premature leaf drop Caused by nearby junipers (alternate host) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove fallen leaves Avoid planting close to junipers if possible Fungicides may help if applied early
Leaf Spot / Entomosporium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small red/purple spots Leaves yellow and drop early Worse in wet spring weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rake leaves Improve airflow Fungicide rarely required
Fire Blight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blackened “shepherd’s crook” shoots Blossom blight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prune 8–12" below visible infection

Problem**Common Symptoms**

- Oozing cankers
- Rapid twig dieback

Treatment & Management

- Sanitize tools
- Remove severely infected trees
- Antibiotic sprays only during bloom (pros)

Aphids

- Sticky honeydew
- Sooty mold
- Curled leaves

- Hose-rinse foliage
- Encourage lady beetles
- Systemic insecticides for major outbreaks

Scale Insects

- Hard bumps on twigs
- Honeydew and sooty mold
- Yellowing leaves

- Treat crawler stage in late spring
- Dormant oil in late winter
- Prune heavily infested branches

Borers

- Exit holes in stems
- Sawdust-like frass
- Branch dieback

- Maintain tree vigor (watering + mulch)
- Avoid trunk wounds
- Preventive pro sprays in summer if needed

Sawfly Larvae

- Skeletonized leaf margins
- Small green larvae feeding in groups

- Hand-pick early
- Hose-spray leaves
- Pro treatment if severe

Environmental Stress (Heat/Drought)

- Leaf scorch
- Early yellowing
- Sparse canopy

- Deep water every 2–3 weeks
- Mulch 2–4" deep
- Avoid hot, reflected-heat planting sites

When to Worry vs. When It's Cosmetic

● When to Worry (action recommended)

- Fire blight symptoms (blackened, curled twigs)
- Severe rust or leaf spot causing major defoliation
- Borer exit holes paired with canopy thinning
- Heavy scale with sticky honeydew and black mold
- Progressive decline during hot summers
- Extensive dieback on multiple limbs

These may require **professional diagnosis or targeted treatment**.

● Mostly Cosmetic (monitor only)

- Light rust spotting in early summer
- Minor leaf spot during wet springs
- Occasional aphids or sawfly feeding
- Slight leaf scorch in hot weather
- Early color change in drought

These issues typically improve with **seasonal conditions, proper watering, and good cultural care**.