Looking for Norway Maple?

Norway maple (Acer platanoides) is now prohibited from sale or planting in New Hampshire because it is an invasive species.

Norway maple is a rapidly growing, adaptable deciduous tree with good salt tolerance. The cultivar "Crimson King" with its maroon-colored leaves is a favorite shade tree. When selecting an alternative, evaluate the site and plant characteristics carefully.

Consider using these non-invasive alternatives:

- **Gingko (Gingko biloba)**
  - Slow-growing but very long-lived; unique fan-shaped leaves, nice yellow fall color. Salt, heat, and drought tolerant. Plant male trees to avoid the unpleasant smell of the fruit. 75' tall x 40' wide.

- **Japanese Tree Lilac (Syringa reticulata)**
  - A smaller tree, 30' x 20' at maturity. Lilac-like white blossoms in mid-summer, but not fragrant, attractive cherry-like bark. ‘Ivory Silk’ is a popular cultivar.

Where moderate salt tolerance is needed

- **Northern Red Oak (Quercus rubra)**
  - A nice native shade tree for lawn areas. Lustrous green summer foliage, russet brown in fall. Acorns may be an annoyance but squirrels love them. 75' tall x 60' wide.

- **Red Maple (Acer rubrum)**
  - Red spring color when in bloom, green summer foliage, yellow to red in fall. Native, will tolerate wet soils. 75' tall x 60' wide.

Where purple foliage is desired

- **Flowering Crabapple (Malus varieties)**
  - For purple leaves and good disease resistance, choose 'Purple Prince' or 'Thunderchild'; for purplish-green foliage and moderate to good resistance, 'Pink Princess' and 'Pink Spires'. 15-20' tall x 12-25' wide, depending on variety.

- **Purple Beech (Fagus sylvatica)**
  - ‘Riverrill’ European beech is the most popular and available purple beech. Allow ample space for this long-lived but slow-growing tree. 50' tall x 40' wide.

- **Flowering Plum (Prunus cerasifera)**
  - Varieties with purple leaves include 'Atropurpurea', 'Newport' and 'Mount Saint Helens', suitable to zone 4, and 'Thundercloud' for zone 5 or warmer. Often subject to disease and insect damage. Mature sizes vary; 15-30' high x 15-25' wide.

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