Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)

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**Summary:**
Foliage: Evergreen broadleaf Height: 40 feet  
Spread: 60 feet  
Shape: Spreading  
A massive and majestic shade tree with evergreen foliage that is bright olive-green when new and changes to a glossy, dark green when mature.

**Plant Needs:**
Zone: 7b to 10  
Light: Partial shade to full sun  
Moisture: Wet to moist to average  
Soil Type: Sandy, loam, or clay  
P pH Range: 3.7 to 7.0

**Functions:**
Suggested uses for this plant include shade, street tree, and specimen plant.

**Planting Notes:**
Transplant small size trees.  
Tolerates soils ranging from light sand to heavy and compact silt and clay. Tolerates a wide range of moisture conditions.  
Tolerates salt spray.  
Requires large area for branches and roots to spread.

**Care:**
Prune when young to establish main branches.

**Problems:**
No serious pest or disease problems.  
Gall insect is more unsightly than damaging. Susceptible to root rot in coastal areas.

**Alternatives:**
Consult local garden centers, historic or public gardens and arboreta regarding cultivars and related species that grow well in your area.  
Cultivars of *Quercus virginiana*: no important cultivars.

**Comments:**
An evergreen member of the oak family, the live oak is cold hardy in the Tidewater area and as far north as Williamsburg.  
A magnificent shade tree; however, its large, wide-spreading, horizontal branches make it inappropriate for small properties.  
The acorns of the live oak are eaten by many animals.

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