

**04.27.15 PC Meeting  
Item 8c  
12 Vista Lane  
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**COMMUNICATION RECEIVED  
AFTER PREPARATION  
OF STAFF REPORT**

April 27, 2015

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APR 27 2015

Hillside Drive  
Burlingame, CA 94010

CITY OF BURLINGAME  
CDD-PLANNING DIV.

Planning Commission  
501 Primrose Rd,  
Burlingame, CA 94010

Re: 12 Vista Lane

Dear Commissioners,

The recent changes to the building plans at 12 Vista Lane have been welcomed, such as reduced height of the garage by 3 feet and of the house itself by 1 foot. The challenge of fitting such a spacious residence on one the smaller lots in the neighborhood remains, however. There are several concerns particular to our side of the street and to our views that we would like to bring to the commission's attention.

**Proposed tree planting in front of the structure**

The proposed tree labeled #1 in the diagram is a magnolia variety (*Magnolia acuminata*) grows to 75-100 ft. tall, is a native to the Eastern United States and Southern Ontario, and is not a recommended street tree, but a park one instead. It would be ideal to protect our views and to preserve a good neighborly relationship by choosing medium-sized trees. The printout on this particular tree information is attached.

**Utilities connection**

Unlike the aerial PG&E connection of 8 Vista Lane, it would be much safer and aesthetically pleasing to ground all the wires. It is particularly worrying should a large tree be planted in front as proposed. We request the commission to inquire into this matter.

**Title 24 lighting in front**

Again, unlike front lights at 8 Vista Lane, we would appreciate a great deal to have title 24 compliant lighting so that we are not blinded by illumination across the street at night.

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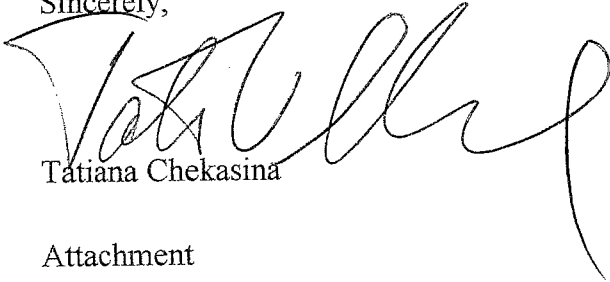
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**Change of materials**

We'd like to avoid having the choice of materials approved by the commission changed to lesser quality as occurred during the building at 8 Vista Lane. The type of windows, garage doors and the front door were all changed, and to all appearances, to a lower grade materials. I personally could not find any application to approve the as-built changes to the commission for that address.

Sincerely,

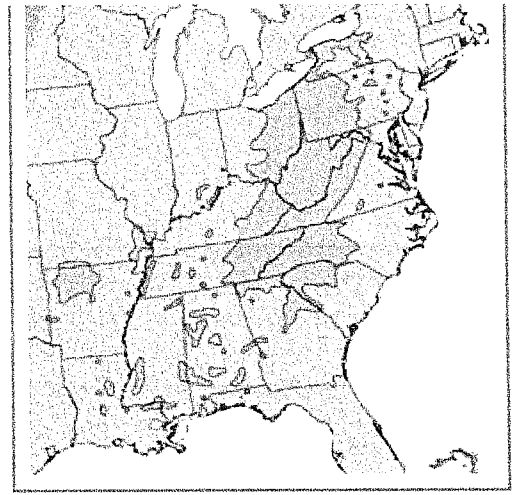


Tatiana Chekasina

Attachment

## Uses and cultivation

Cucumber trees are excellent shade trees for parks and gardens, though they are not recommended for use as street trees. In cultivation, they typically only grow 15–20 m (50–75 feet) tall, although they reach over 30 m (100 feet) in ideal forest situations. They can become quite massive: the United States national (and most likely world) champion in Stark County, Ohio measures more than seven feet (2 m) in diameter (although only 79 ft or 24 m tall). They grow best in deep, moist, well-drained soils that are slightly acidic although they are tolerant of alkaline soils.



They are tricky to transplant due to their coarse, fleshy root system and should be planted shallow and moved in early spring with a good soil ball.

In the timber trade, the wood of this tree is interchangeable with that of the related tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*).

*Magnolia acuminata* has been used in hybridizing new varieties that share its yellow flower color and cold hardiness

## References

1. Sternberg, G., & Wilson, J. (2004). *Native Trees for North American Landscapes*. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press
2. White, D.J. (2000). Update COSEWIC Status Report on the Cucumber Tree *Magnolia acuminata* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa, Ontario

## External links

- *Magnolia acuminata* images at bioimages.vanderbilt.edu (<http://www.cas.vanderbilt.edu/bioimages/species/frame/maac.htm>)
- Flora of North America: *Magnolia acuminata* ([http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora\\_id=1&taxon\\_id=233500766](http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=233500766))
- Flora of N.Amer-RangeMap: *Magnolia acuminata* ([http://www.efloras.org/object\\_page.aspx?object\\_id=6419&flora\\_id=1](http://www.efloras.org/object_page.aspx?object_id=6419&flora_id=1))
- NRCS-USDA Plants Profile: *Magnolia acuminata* (<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=MAAC>)

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Magnolia\_acuminata&oldid=640176294"

Categories: Magnolia | Trees of humid continental climate

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Wikimedia Commons  
media related to *Magnolia acuminata*.

# Magnolia acuminata

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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CITY OF BURLINGAME  
GDD-PLANNING DIV.

*Magnolia acuminata*, commonly called the **cucumber tree** (often spelled as a single word "**cucumbertree**"), **cucumber magnolia** or **blue magnolia**, is one of the largest magnolias, and one of the cold-hardest. It is a large forest tree of the Eastern United States and Southern Ontario Canada. It is a tree that tends to occur singly as scattered specimens, rather than in groves.<sup>[1]</sup>

The cucumber tree is native primarily within the Appalachian belt, including the Allegheny Plateau and Cumberland Plateau, up to western Pennsylvania and New York. There are also numerous disconnected outlying populations through much of the southeastern U.S., and a few small populations in Southern Ontario. In Canada, the cucumber tree is listed as an endangered species and is protected under the Canadian Species at Risk Act.<sup>[2]</sup> In 1993 The North American Native Plant Society purchased Shining Tree Woods to preserve a stand of *Magnolia acuminata*, which is also known as "The Shining Tree".

The leaves are deciduous simple and alternate, oval to oblong, 12–25 cm long and 6–12 cm wide, with smooth margins and downy on the underside. They come in two forms, acuminate at both ends, or moderately cordate at the base (these are usually only formed high in the tree).



The fruit of *Magnolia acuminata*

Unlike most magnolias, the flowers are not showy. They are typically small, yellow-green, and borne high in the tree in April through June. The leaves of *Magnolia acuminata* are pointed at the tip and provide it with its name - 'acuminate' means tapering to a fine point. The name Cucumber Tree refers to the unripe fruit, which is green and often shaped like a small cucumber; the fruit matures to a dark red color and is 6–8 cm long and 4 cm broad, with the individual carpels splitting open to release the bright red seeds,

10-60 per fruit. The ripe fruit is a striking reddish orange color.

## Cucumber tree



*Magnolia acuminata*

Morton Arboretum acc. 1046-3\*1

## Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Magnoliids
Order:	Magnoliales
Family:	Magnoliaceae
Genus:	<i>Magnolia</i>
Subgenus:	<i>Yulania</i>
Section:	<i>Yulania</i>
Subsection:	<i>Tulipastrum</i>
Species:	<i>M. acuminata</i>

## Binomial name

*Magnolia acuminata*

L.

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