**Duluth Community Orchard – fruit variety descriptions**

**Ashmead’s Kernel**
*Fruit Description:* Medium size, flattish round shape, sometimes slightly conical; greenish-yellow fruit with brown flush, usually covered with heavy russet; crisp, yellowish juicy flesh with unique, nut-like flavor, tart when tree-ripe; peak quality in early November, ripens late September through October, 800-1000 chill hours
*Tree Description:* Large precocious tree, modest production
*Hardiness:* Up to -40° F  
*Zone:* 4
*Disease Resistance:* Powdery mildew  
*Disease Susceptibility:* None
*Source:* Originated in England almost 300 years ago  
*Other Comments:* Makes an excellent cider

**Blue Pearmain**
*Fruit Description:* Large, slightly conical shape; red with purplish striping; mild and aromatic with firm, dense, creamy-white flesh; ripens in October to November
*Tree Description:* Unknown
*Hardiness:* Very; to -50° F with occasional winter damage  
*Zone:* 3-6
*Disease Resistance:* Unknown  
*Disease Susceptibility:* Unknown
*Source:* Uncertain; American, from early 1800’s  
*Other Comments:* Keeps all winter

**Black Oxford**
*Fruit Description:* Medium size; deep-purple skin with a black bloom; ripens in November.  
*Tree Description:* Shy biennial bearer
*Hardiness:* Very to extremely  
*Zone:* 3-5
*Disease Resistance:* Insects and disease  
*Disease Susceptibility:* Unknown
*Source:* Originated in Oxford, Maine in 1790
*Other Comments:* Great for cider, drying, cooking and eating

**Fameuse Snow** *(Snow, Snow Apple, Snow Chimney, Chimney Apple, Red American, Royal Snow, Pomme de Neige, Chimney Point)*
*Fruit Description:* Small to medium fruit with beautiful red over cream skin, occasionally stained crimson near the skin; tender, spicy, aromatic, distinctive flavor; ripens during September; 600 chill hours
*Tree Description:* Bears heavily but produces biennially; requires pollination and dislikes heavy soils; one of the few apple varieties that can reproduce itself from seed
*Hardiness:* Extremely; to -50° or colder  
*Zone:* 3-10
*Disease Resistance:* Unknown  
*Disease Susceptibility:* Scab (during wet summer)
*Source:* French seed planted in Canada in the late 1600s; introduced to the United States in 1739; possible parent of McIntosh.
*Other Comments:* Excellent for cider, fresh eating, and cooking; great for home orchards

**Frostbite** *(Minnesota 447, MN 447)*
*Fruit Description:* Medium size; dark red skin completely covered with dark blue-purple stripes; juicy, apricot-orange colored flesh with occasional red staining.  
*Tree Description:* Unknown
*Hardiness:* Extremely; Survived the killing winter of 1917-1918 in Minnesota  
*Zone:* 3-6
*Disease Resistance:* Unknown  
*Disease Susceptibility:* Unknown
*Source:* Unknown; Grandparent of Honeycrisp; Part of the University of Minnesota breeding program since the 1920s
*Other Comments:* Unusually flavored desert and cider apple
Northern Spy

**Fruit Description:** Large, round, often flattened, greenish yellow fruit flushed and striped pinkish red with a delicate bloom and occasional russet patches; fine grained, rather firm, very tender, crisp, juicy yellowish flesh; tart, aromatic, subacid flavor; Ripens in late October; 800-1000 chill hours

**Tree Description:** Very large, vigorous, productive, upright tree; tends to bear biannually; Takes about 12 years to bear and requires pollination

**Hardiness:** Very to moderate; at least to -40°F with occasional winter injury

**Disease Resistance:** Fire blight

**Disease Susceptibility:** Unknown

**Source:** Seedling discovered prior to 1800 in New York.

**Other Comments:** Excellent all-purpose apple except for drying and cider; Keeps into March and possibly to May if temperature is regulated

Prairie Spy

**Fruit Description:** Large fruit with attractive red over yellow skin color; Crisp, juicy flesh with excellent flavor; Ripens in October

**Tree Description:** Vigorous, long-lived, annually productive tree; Bears young and heavily; Blooms exceptionally late; Ripens in October

**Hardiness:** Very - extremely; -50°F with occasional winter injury

**Disease Resistance:** Apple scab and cedar apple rust

**Disease Susceptibility:** Unknown

**Source:** Unknown; Developed by University of Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm; Introduced in the 1940s

**Other Comments:** All purpose; One of best the home varieties; Extra long-keeping winter apple; Keeps for three months with flavor developing and improving while in storage

St. Edmunds Russet

**Fruit Description:** Uniformly flat-round fruit, entirely covered with a smooth, pure golden to bronze russet; Very crisp, juicy, yellowish flesh with rich, pear-like flavor; Ripens September to October.

**Tree Description:** Moderately vigorous, precocious and productive; Bears annually and heavily; Tip bearer that benefits from thinning

**Hardiness:** Very; Up to -50°F

**Disease Resistance:** Unknown

**Disease Susceptibility:** Unknown

**Source:** Originated in 1870 at Bury, St. Edmunds.

**Other Comments:** Regarded as the best early russet

Wealthy

**Fruit Description:** Medium size, pale yellow fruit splashed and striped with red and ripens to all-over scarlet; Refreshing, crisp, very juicy white flesh with pink veins; Sprightly, vinous, distinctive flavor with a hint of strawberry; Ripens in September.

**Tree Description:** Small, but very productive; Bears young and heavily with tendency towards biennial bearing; Blooms profusely over a long period; Excellent pollinator.

**Hardiness:** Very; Up to -50°F

**Disease Resistance:** Scab, fire blight and cedar apple rust

**Disease Susceptibility:** Unknown

**Source:** Cherry Crab x Sops of Wine; Seedling of Cherry Crab planted in Minnesota in about 1860

**Other Comments:** Great for home orchards, pies, sauces and preserves; Harvest early for kitchen use and let ripen to scarlet color for fresh eating; Keeps into December

Wolf River

**Fruit Description:** Enormous fruits, often one pound or more; Pale yellow skin almost covered with pale dull red; Soft, tender, slightly mealy, creamy white flesh; Subacid flavor; Ripens from mid-September to early October

**Tree Description:** Long-lived, productive, strong, spreading, sturdy limb growth

**Hardiness:** Extremely; Up to -50°F

**Disease Resistance:** Scab, mildew, fire blight and cedar apple rust

**Disease Susceptibility:** Unknown

**Source:** Open pollinated seedling of Alexander found growing on the banks of the Wolf River near Fremont, Wisconsin in 1875.

**Other Comments:** Primarily used for baking and pies; Makes fine dessert apple with distinctive flavor when grown in full sun on sandy soil.