From Pine Ridge Garden comments:

*Amelanchier* Serviceberry Native Sarvisberries are the earliest trees/shrubs to bloom in the wild having white flowers that often have a sweet fragrance. If you want to attract birds, be sure to plant some of these as the delicious fruit is gobbled up quickly by the birds (they make wonderful cobblers if you can get to the fruit first). This species is stoloniferous making a running clump in time. Height is variable up to 15', usually smaller.

*Cercis canadensis* Redbud Eastern redbud is an eagerly awaited sign of spring which is found in rich moist mixed woods & dry fields throughout the eastern part of the U.S. as far north as New Jersey & West to Nebraska. Showy pink flowers on small tree, Redbuds are one of the most drought tolerant showy trees that I know. The flowers are tasty in a salad.

*Chionanthus virginicus* American fringe tree

The scientific name of this tree translates to snow flower. Usually a small tree, it can be maintained as a shrub by periodic pruning. Fringe tree is not a rapid grower but usually blooms while quite small. Fragrant late spring blossoms are cloud-like. It is also known as granddaddy graybeard or grancy greybeard.

*Cladrastis kentukea* Yellowwood A lovely tree, especially in flower with its fragrant panicles of white flowers in spring. This tree is fairly rare in the wild with populations in Kentucky, Virginia & West N. C., found in Alabama west to Oklahoma & disjunct in Indiana. Eventually might reach 50'. Often grown as multi-trunked small tree. This spring the Yellowwood in my 'arboretum' was absolutely magnificent. The flowers were so thick that you could barely see the foliage and as you approached the tree, you became aware of an intense humming sound. There were so many bees of different species eagerly drinking the nectar from each flower. Yellowwood is an Arkansas Native- usually having white flowers that look like wisteria blossoms.

*Cornus florida*    Flowering dogwood  Shade - dappled shade Zones: 5b to 9  
Flowering dogwood needs no introduction as this is what most people think of when you say dogwood tree. The showy bracts in late March to early April in a woodland are most beautiful. We are fortunate here to have many scattered throughout our woods. This dogwood needs to be sited well, preferably in dappled shade or afternoon shade. The drainage needs to be good as standing water or heavy clay will usually assure its demise. Birds love dogwoods!

*Prunus mexicana*   Big tree plum A fairly open tree growing as an understory plant. It is one of the earliest blooming trees & I enjoy the fragrance of it from the deck of our house as I have a couple old ones in the yard. The bark is furrowed & almost black. The fruits produced are a soft plum color with a glaucous bloom, very sweet & about the size of an English walnut. Native to the midwest from Iowa to Texas & over into Arkansas & Missouri