

2025 SPECIES GUIDE



Please refer to our [Tree Planting Instructions](#) for best practices and instructions on planting your tree.

U.S.

Alabama - Shumard Oak
Arizona - Narrowleaf Cottonwood
Arkansas - Shumard Oak
California - Pomegranate
Colorado - Choke Cherry
Connecticut - White Pine
Delaware - Black Gum
Florida - Black Gum
Georgia - Black Gum
Hawaii - Milo
Idaho - Narrowleaf Cottonwood
Illinois - Red Oak
Indiana - Red Oak
Iowa - Red Oak
Kansas - Plains Cottonwood
Kentucky - Black Cherry
Louisiana - Loblolly Pine
Maine - White Pine
Maryland - Black Cherry
Massachusetts - Black Cherry
Michigan - White Cedar
Minnesota - White Cedar

Mississippi - Shumard Oak
Missouri - Shumard Oak
Montana - Choke Cherry
Nebraska - Plains Cottonwood
Nevada - Apple
New Hampshire - White Pine
New Jersey - Black Cherry
New Mexico - Narrowleaf Cottonwood
New York - White Pine
North Carolina - Black Gum
North Dakota - Plains Cottonwood
Ohio - Red Oak
Oklahoma - Shumard Oak
Oregon - Apple
Pennsylvania - White Pine
Rhode Island - White Pine
South Carolina - Black Gum
South Dakota - Plains Cottonwood
Tennessee - Shumard Oak
Texas - Black Gum
Utah - Apple
Vermont - White Pine

Virginia - Black Gum
Washington - Choke Cherry
Washington D.C. - Black Gum
West Virginia - Black Gum
Wisconsin - White Cedar
Wyoming - Narrowleaf Cottonwood

Canada

Alberta - Quaking Aspen
British Columbia - Quaking Aspen
Manitoba - Quaking Aspen
Nova Scotia - Quaking Aspen
Ontario - White Spruce
Quebec - Quaking Aspen
Saskatchewan - Quaking Aspen
Yukon - Quaking Aspen

**CLICK ON YOUR STATE TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT
YOUR SPECIES!**

HOW WE SELECT SPECIES:



Neighborhood Forest aims to provide native and / or fruit bearing trees on a state-by-state basis and a diversity of trees each year. We aim to select trees that are climate hardy – many will grow into large canopy trees for shading homes or serving as windbreaks. To learn more about why native trees are so important, please [click here](#).

To learn more about the benefits of planting fruit bearing trees, please [click here](#).

THE PROCESS:

Our tree species selection process is like solving a complex puzzle, with multiple pieces coming together to form a cohesive picture. Here's how we piece it all together:

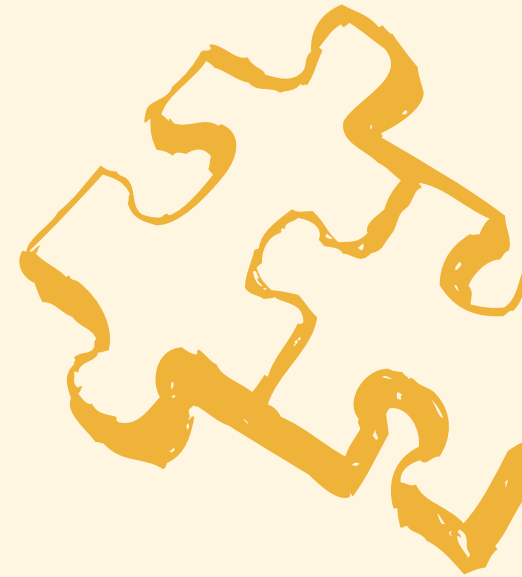
Initial Planning (Fall): We kick off the process by forecasting the upcoming year's registration numbers and pre-ordering a variety of tree species that are suitable for different regions.

Data Analysis (March 15th): After parent registration closes on March 15th, we gather final tree registration numbers for each state. Using this data along with considerations such as native range, hardiness zones, and past distribution patterns, we meticulously match tree species to each state.

Logistics Coordination: Collaborating closely with UPS, we strategize the logistics of pick-up and pack sites where UPS volunteers will come together to pack and ship tree orders. This stage not only ensures efficient delivery but also influences species selection based on the pick and pack locations.

Nursery Partners: Working hand-in-hand with our trusted nursery partners, we finalize our tree order, taking into account the available quantities of each species.

Announcement (Early April): With all the pieces in place, we unveil the completed puzzle—the selection of tree species assigned to each state.



APPLE

Malus domestica 'Antonovka' | Deciduous Tree

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With stunning blossoms in spring and vibrant fruit in the fall, Antonovka apple trees add visual appeal to any landscape. Antonovka apples are a powerhouse of nutrition. They are rich in vitamins A and C, along with dietary fiber.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 3-8 [view map](#)



Height of 15-25' and spread of 10-20' at maturity. Moderate growth rate, which can vary based on the care it receives and its growing environment.



Antonovka apples prefer well-drained, fertile loam with a soil pH between 6.0 and 7.0. Enhance your soil by adding organic matter and compost to promote healthy growth.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least 6 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



Antonovka apple trees attract pollinators, which are crucial for maintaining biodiversity and supporting local wildlife. They also attract deer, rabbits, squirrels, and birds.



BLACK CHERRY

Prunus serotina | Deciduous Tree



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The black cherry is praised for its abundant spring bloom, attractive foliage through the summer, and fall color. It will produce clusters of small red berries that will ripen in the summer. The black cherries can be eaten but note that only flesh of the fruit is edible. The pit, leaves, twigs, bark should not be consumed.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 3-9 [view map](#)



Height of 50'-80' and spread of 25'-40' at maturity.
Grows about 12 - 24" per year once established.



Black Cherry prefer loamy, moist, well drained soil.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers 6 hours of direct light daily and partial sun / shade 4-6 hours light daily.



Black Cherry trees attract cavity-nesting birds, game birds, game mammals, insect pollinators, small mammals, and songbirds.



Source: Arbor Day

BLACK GUM

Nyssa sylvatica | Deciduous Tree



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Provides stunning fall color, bringing many shade of yellow, orange, bright red, purple, and scarlet. Yields small, bluish-black fruit that ripens in late September and early October, eaten by many species of birds and mammals



Grows in Hardiness Zones 4-9 [view map](#)



Height of 30-50' and spread of 20-30' at maturity. Slow to medium growth rate about 12-24" per year.



Black Gum trees prefer acidic, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, silty loam, well drained soil.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers 6 hours of direct light daily and partial sun / shade 4-6 hours light daily.



The fruit of the black gum attracts many birds and wildlife. It also provides nutrition for bees in early to late spring.



Source: Arbor Day Foundation

CHOKE CHERRY

Prunus virginiana L. | Deciduous Tree



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Fragrant cream-colored flowers bloom in the spring, and develop into small dark red to black fruit with relatively large pits. Chokecherries are not usually consumed raw; rather they are processed to make preserves, juices, wines, syrups, and jellies. **Note:** The pit, leaves, twigs, bark should not be consumed.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 2-7 [view map](#)



Height of 20' - 25' and spread of 15-20' at maturity. Grows about 12-24" per year.



Chokecherries thrive in various soil types and pH levels. They prefer well-drained soils rich in organic matter but are highly adaptable. They are very cold and drought tolerant.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers 6 hours of direct light daily and partial sun / shade 4-6 hours light daily. Remarkably shade tolerant.



Choke cherry trees are beneficial to pollinators and to many wildlife animals. Birds, rabbits, hares, rodents all seek out and eat its fruit. It provides food, cover and nesting habitat for a variety of birds.



Source: USDA & Utah State University

LOBLOLLY PINE

Pinus taeda | Evergreen Tree



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Loblolly pine is a needled evergreen tree in the pine family (Pinaceae) and is native to the southeastern United States. It has the most rapid growth rate of all pines.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 6-9 [view map](#)



Height of 60' -90' and spread of 25-35' at maturity. Fast growing at more than 24" per year once established.



Loblolly Pine prefer acidic, loamy, moist, clay, drought, sandy, well drained soil.



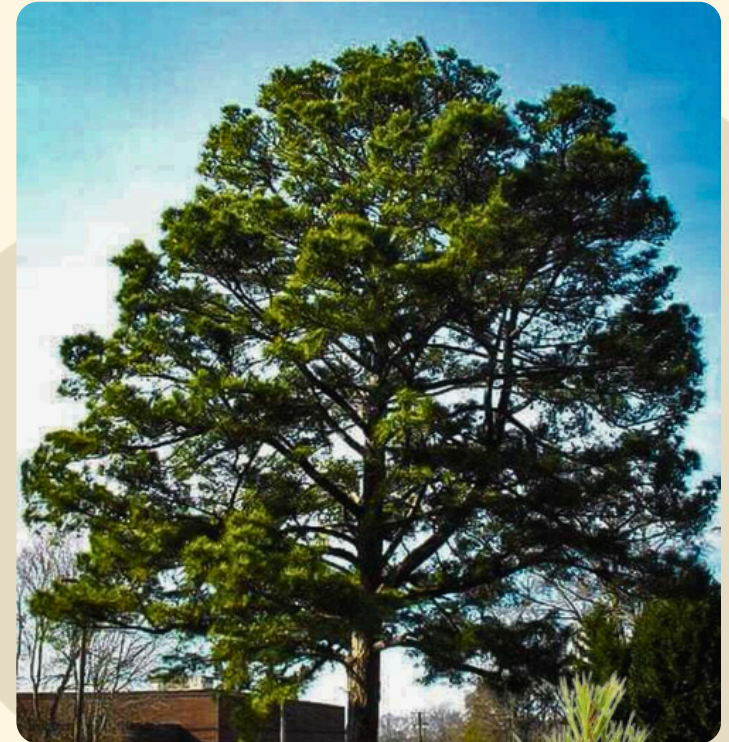
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Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least 6 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



Loblolly pines provide shelter and food for many southeastern animals, including birds such as Carolina chickadees, brown-headed nuthatches, rufous-sided towhees, northern bobwhites and wild turkeys. The seeds are also consumed by chipmunks, squirrels and other small rodents.



Source: Arbor Day Foundation

Thespesia populnea | Deciduous Tree

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In old Hawai'i, milo trees were grown near coastal homes for shade. Their fruit produces a yellow-green dye for kapa, and the tree can be used for making cordage. Milo features bright yellow flowers with maroon centers that change to orange throughout the day and is resilient to drought, salt, wind, and heat.



Grows in Hardiness 11 [view map](#)



Height of 30-50' and spread of 30-40' at maturity. Moderate growth rate, which can vary based on the care it receives and its growing environment.



Milo trees thrive in well-drained sandy, clay, cinder, and organic soils. Their deep root systems help stabilize soil, preventing erosion and protecting shorelines from wind and wave effects.



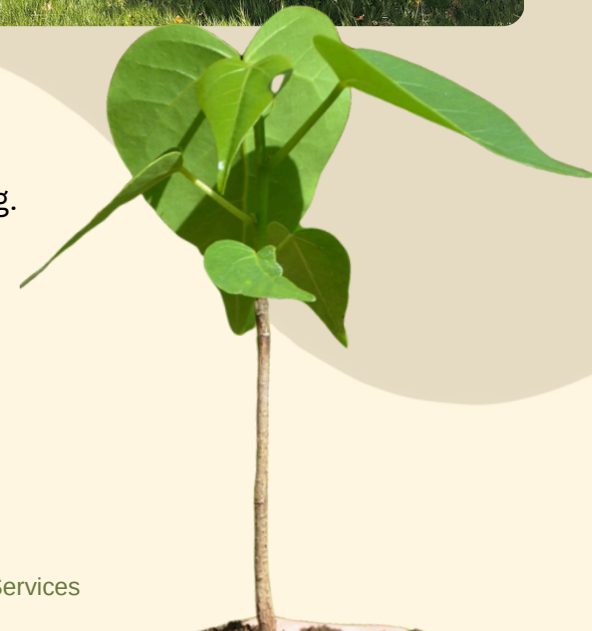
Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Milo trees love sunlight and perform best in full sun, where they receive at least 6-8 hours of direct light daily.



The tree's flowers provide nectar for pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Its dense canopy also offers shelter and habitat for birds and small wildlife, enhancing local ecosystems.



NARROWLEAF COTTONWOOD



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Populus angustifolia | Deciduous Tree

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Narrow-leaf cottonwood is planted as a fast-growing ornamental tree. These trees can be used at high elevations and are useful in landscaping on deer winter ranges since deer will not damage them through over browsing. Note: Narrowleaf Cottonwood does not produce the “cotton fluff”.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 2-8 [view map](#)



Height of 50' - 60' and spread of 35' - 45' at maturity. Grows more than 24" per year once established.



Narrowleaf Cottonwood grow in sandy, loamy, and heavy soils. Prefers well-drained soil.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is best for this tree, meaning it prefers at least 6 - 8 hours of direct light daily. Narrowleaf Cottonwood are intolerant of shade, so be sure to plant in a sunny spot!



Narrowleaf cottonwood supports various wildlife, including squirrels, aquatic fur bearers, bears, white-tailed deer, and numerous bird species. Its twigs and leaves serve as food for rabbits, deer, and moose, while quail and grouse eat its buds and catkins.



Source: USDA & Lam Tree Service

PLAINS COTTONWOOD

Populus deltoides | Deciduous Tree



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The Plains Cottonwood is one of North America's largest hardwood trees. Its bark is usually 2-3" thick and is commonly used for woodcarving due to its softness. The leaves turn a beautiful yellow in the Fall. Note: The saplings are sterile meaning that they should not produce the "cotton fluff".



Grows in Hardiness Zones 2-9 [view map](#)



Height of 70' - 130' and spread of 60' - 100' at maturity. Grows more than 24" per year once established.



Plains Cottonwood grow best on moist, well drained, fine sandy or silt loams close to streams.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is best for this tree, meaning it prefers at least 6 - 8 hours of direct light daily. Plains Cottonwood are intolerant of shade, so be sure to plant in a sunny spot!



Plains Cottonwood attract a variety of mammals, sapsuckers, songbirds, bees, and butterflies.



Source: USDA & Morton Arboretum

POMEGRANATE

Punica granatum wonderful | Deciduous Tree



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Best known for the antioxidant-rich fruit it produces, the pomegranate shrub is grown in warm, semi-arid to subtropical climates. Its tubular blooms begin to appear in late May and early June, providing nice spring color, while the fruit ripens from September to October.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 7 - 10 [view map](#)



Height of 12-20' and spread of 12-20' at maturity. Grows about 12-24" per year.



The pomegranate grows in loamy, moist, sandy, well-drained, and clay soils. It has moderate drought tolerance.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least 6 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



The flowers attract hummingbirds, and the arils of the fruit are enjoyed by a wide variety of wildlife.



Source: Arbor Day Foundation

NORTHERN RED OAK

Quercus rubra | Deciduous Tree



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Northern red oak is a Midwest native and is one of the faster growing oaks for the home landscape. The leaves are handsome throughout the year, turning dark green in summer, and changing to bright red in autumn. Its tolerance of salt and air pollution makes it a good tree for more exposed areas.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 3-8 [view map](#)



Height of 60'-75' and spread of about 60' - 75' at maturity. Fast growing at about 25" or more once established.



Red oak prefers acidic soil, clay, drought, loamy, moist, well-drained soil. It tolerates compacted soil, air pollution and moderate salt spray.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



Acorns from this tree are at the top of the food preference list for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, small rodents, whitetail deer, raccoons and black bears. Deer also browse the buds and twigs in wintertime.



Source: The Morton Arboretum & Arbor Day

SHUMARD OAK

Quercus shumardii | Deciduous Tree



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A stately, strong, and long-lived tree with beautiful fall color, the Shumard oak is a great selection for yards. This adaptable species has been successfully grown in urban areas where air pollution, poor drainage, compacted soil, and/or drought are common, making it a fine choice for street trees as well.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 5-9 [view map](#)



Height of 40'-60' and spread of 40'-60' at maturity. Grows about 12"-24" per year.



The Shumard oak grows in acidic, alkaline, loamy and well-drained soils. While it prefers normal moisture, the tree has some drought tolerance.



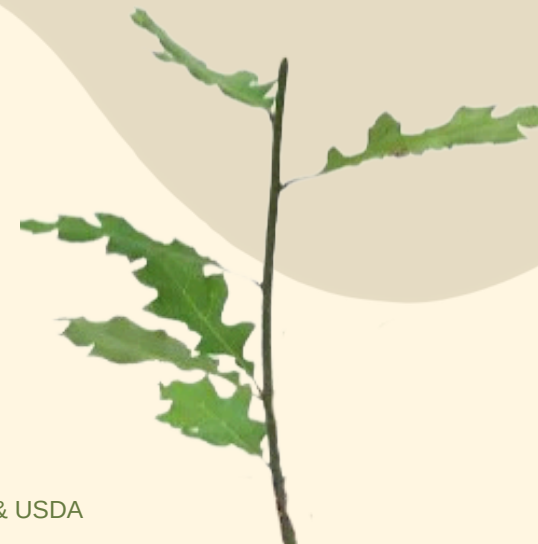
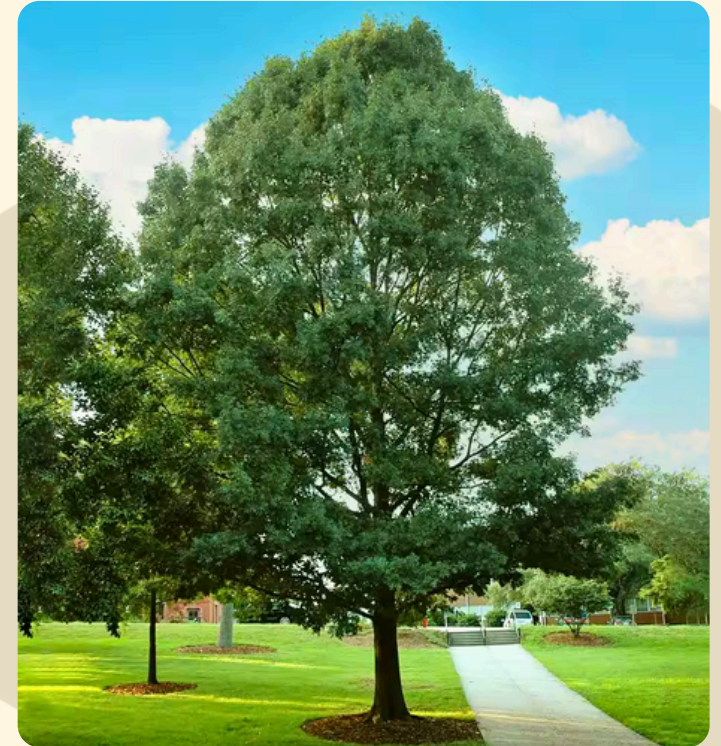
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Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



Numerous species of songbirds, wild turkeys, waterfowl, white-tailed deer, squirrels, and other mammals eat the acorns, which are produced in abundance



WHITE CEDAR

Thuja occidentalis | Evergreen Tree



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This native evergreen is a hard-working, versatile specimen. The narrow, pyramid shape makes it a natural choice for windbreaks. Pairs of these hardy trees make great accents for doors and garden gates. And single trees soften house corners.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 3-7 [view map](#)



Height of 40'-60' and spread of 10'-15' at maturity. Grows about 12" per year.



Northern White Cedars grow well in acidic, loamy, moist, rich, sandy, silty loam, well-drained, wet and clay soils.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers 6 hours of direct light daily and partial sun / shade 4-6 hours light daily.



White Cedar trees provides nesting sites for songbirds, as well as cover, especially in the winter, for white-tailed deer, which both feed on the branches and use them for shelter from the cold.



WHITE PINE

Pinus strobus | Evergreen Tree

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The Eastern white pine is a tree for landscapes with ample space. Its fine feathery needles, open canopy, and straight trunk get more picturesque with age. Trees are fast-growing and long-lived.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 3-8 [view map](#)



Height of 50'-80' and spread of 20'-40' at maturity. Fast growing at more than 24" per year once established.



The eastern white pine grows in acidic, moist, well-drained and dry soils. While it does best in moist soil, the tree can have been known to tolerate everything from dry, rocky ridges to bogs.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree, meaning it prefers 6 hours of direct light daily and partial sun / shade 4-6 hours light daily.



Eastern white pine seeds are favored by black bears, rabbits, red squirrels and many birds, especially red crossbills. They provide nesting sites for many birds including woodpeckers, common grackles, mourning doves, chickadees and nuthatches.



WHITE SPRUCE

Picea glauca | Evergreen Tree



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This tree has often been heralded as a beautiful tree, whether lining the banks of a North Country river or gracing someone's front yard. In landscape, it is often used as a lovely specimen tree or grouping and makes a sturdy option for windbreaks and buffer strips.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 2-6 [view map](#)



Height of 40'-60' and spread of 10'-20' at maturity.
Grows about 12-24" per year.



The white spruce grows in acidic, loamy, moist, sandy, well-drained and clay soils. It has some drought tolerance.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



White spruces offer nesting sites and shelter while also serving as a food source for various wildlife. Their seeds are favored by crossbills, evening grosbeaks, and red-breasted nuthatches, while grouse, rabbits, and deer eat the foliage. Red squirrels consume the seeds from cones and young spruce shoots.



QUAKING ASPEN

Populus tremuloides | Deciduous Tree



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Quaking Aspen provide stunning yellow leaves in the fall and add movement and a soft, pleasant sound to your landscape due to the “quaking” leaves. Quaking aspens are one of the first trees to spring up after a forest fire.



Grows in Hardiness Zones 1-7 [view map](#)



Height of 40-50' and spread of 20-30' at maturity. Fast growing at more than 24" per year once established.



Quaking aspen prefer acidic, loamy, moist, clay, sandy, well drained soil.



Keep the soil moist. Water newly planted trees once a day for the first couple of weeks after planting, and once a week after that during the growing season. In subsequent years periodic deep watering is preferable over frequent light watering. Watering can be tricky! [Learn more here.](#)



Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least 6 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.



The quaking aspen's leaves are consumed by snowshoe hares, deer, and elk, while fallen leaves serve as food for deer in fall and winter. Beavers use it for food and building material, and grouse rely on its buds in winter. The tree also supports various birds and butterflies.



Source: Arbor Day Foundation