

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

American Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)

Get to know your tree:

The American fringetree is not native to Michigan, but is native to eastern North America and is non-invasive in Michigan. It has medium-sized, oblong leaves with pointed tips and smooth edges. Branches and leaves emerge opposite one another. Fall leaf color is typically yellow or pale orange. Flowers are small, fragrant, and white in color. They have 4-6 narrow petals and emerge in large clusters, lending the tree a lacy appearance in the spring. Fruits are small dark purple drupes. Bark is smooth or slightly furrowed and grey-brown in color.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter fringetree provides approximately \$9.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO₂ levels by 11 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger American fringetrees, visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun facts about your tree:

The genus name, *Chionanthus*, translates to 'snow flower.'

Some Native Americans used the dried bark and roots of the fringetree to treat skin inflammations.



Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with at least partial sun exposure (at least 4 hours of sun per day). Fringetrees may grow to heights of 15-30 feet, with a spread of around 15-30 feet. This species does best in moist, loose soils.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit www.arboday.org/trees/planting. And always make sure to call Miss Dig (1-800-482-7171) to mark underground utilities before digging on your property!

Care for your tree:

This species is not tolerant of drought and will require frequent watering. Watering should be done during dry periods - especially in the summer - but there's no set amount of water your tree needs. Instead, how much you water should be based on the soil. Check the soil at a depth of two inches - if it's moist, there's no need to water. But if it's dry, you should water your tree! Make sure not to water if the temperature is below freezing. Most trees need watering during the first two years after planting - but keep an eye on older trees as well.



www.a2gov.org/10ktrees