

# 10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

## TREE INFO CARD

### Red Maple

*(Acer rubrum)*

#### Get to know your tree:

The red maple is a Michigan native species with relatively small, 3-lobed (or occasionally 5-lobed) leaves. Branches and leaves emerge opposite one another. Leaf-stalks are reddish in color, and fall leaf color is typically a brilliant red. Flowers are small and yellow or red in color. Fruits are “helicopter seeds” - winged samaras that are distributed by the wind. Bark is smooth and grey on younger trees, developing narrow ridges with age.

#### Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter red maple provides approximately \$36.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels by 9 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see benefits provided by larger red maples, visit [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com).



## Fun facts about your tree:

The red maple has the greatest north-south range of any tree species in eastern North America and can be found anywhere from Newfoundland to southern Florida!

The largest known red maple is located in Great Smokey Mountains National Park and has a trunk that is approximately 7 feet in diameter!



## Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with full sun exposure (at least 6 hours of sun per day). Red maples grow to heights of 40-60 feet, with a spread of around 40 feet – make sure to consider the size of the tree and do not plant this tree in close proximity to buildings or underneath overhead utilities. Please consider potential conflicts with solar panels as well! This species does best in moist, slightly acidic soils.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit [www.arborday.org/trees/planting](http://www.arborday.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 may 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.



# A<sup>2</sup>ZERO

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