

# 10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

## TREE INFO CARD

# Magnolias

*(Magnolia spp.)*

### Get to know your tree:

The magnolias are a genus of trees, none of which are native to Michigan. Many magnolia species are native to eastern North America, and none are invasive in Michigan. There are a wide variety of magnolia species, all with many variations in appearance and physiology. Some species are deciduous, while others are evergreen. Magnolia leaves are typically relatively large, with smooth edges. Flowers are typically large, fragrant, and showy. Fruits are berry-like and are contained in capsules arranged in upright aggregate clusters. Bark is typically smooth.

### Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter magnolia provides approximately \$16.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels by 14 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by a specific species of magnolia, visit [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com).



## Fun fact about your tree:

The magnolia family evolved prior to the evolution of bees and other common pollinators, meaning that the primary pollinators of magnolia trees are beetles – hence the large size and heavy fragrance of most magnolia flowers.



## Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant most species of magnolia, consider spots with at least partial sun exposure (at least 4 hours of sun per day). Size depends on species - many magnolias grow to heights of 20-40 feet, with a spread of around 20-30 feet, but some species grow much larger. Make sure to consider the size of the tree and do not plant larger species in close proximity to buildings or underneath overhead utilities. Please also consider potential conflicts with solar panels. Most species of magnolia do best in rich, moist, 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:

Water requirements of magnolias vary with species, but most are moderately tolerant of drought. 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](http://www.a2gov.org/10ktrees)