

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

Eastern White Oak (*Quercus alba*)

Get to know your tree:

The eastern white oak is a Michigan native species with medium-sized, pinnately lobed leaves with rounded lobes and deep sinuses. Leaves lack bristle tips. Fall leaf color is typically a drab maroon, reddish-orange, or reddish-brown. Flowers are catkins hanging below developing leaves in long strands. Fruits are relatively small acorns with short stalks and shallow caps. Bark is a pale ashy grey with long, peeling strips on younger trees. Older individuals have bark that is a darker grey, with either long, peeling ridges or small blocks.

Tree benefits:

Over 20 years, a 1-inch diameter eastern white oak is expected to provide approximately \$20.93 in benefits, avoid 539 gallons of stormwater runoff, and sequester 61.9 pounds of CO₂. To learn more about these benefits, or the benefits of other trees, please visit mytree.itreetools.org.



Fun facts about your tree:

White oak wood is especially water-tight and has long been favored for ship-building, as well as for making wine and whiskey barrels.

Acorns are high in tannins, but can be eaten if these tannins are boiled out. Popular preparations of acorns include deep frying and mixing into soups!



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). White oaks grow to heights of 50-100 feet, with a spread of around 50-80 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 also consider potential conflicts with solar panels. This species does best in moist, slightly acidic soils. It is intolerant of flooding and soil disturbance.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit 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 moderately tolerant of drought, but prefers moist soil. 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. Oaks should always be pruned in the dormant season, to avoid attracting beetles that may carry oak wilt disease.

