

# 10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

## TREE INFO CARD

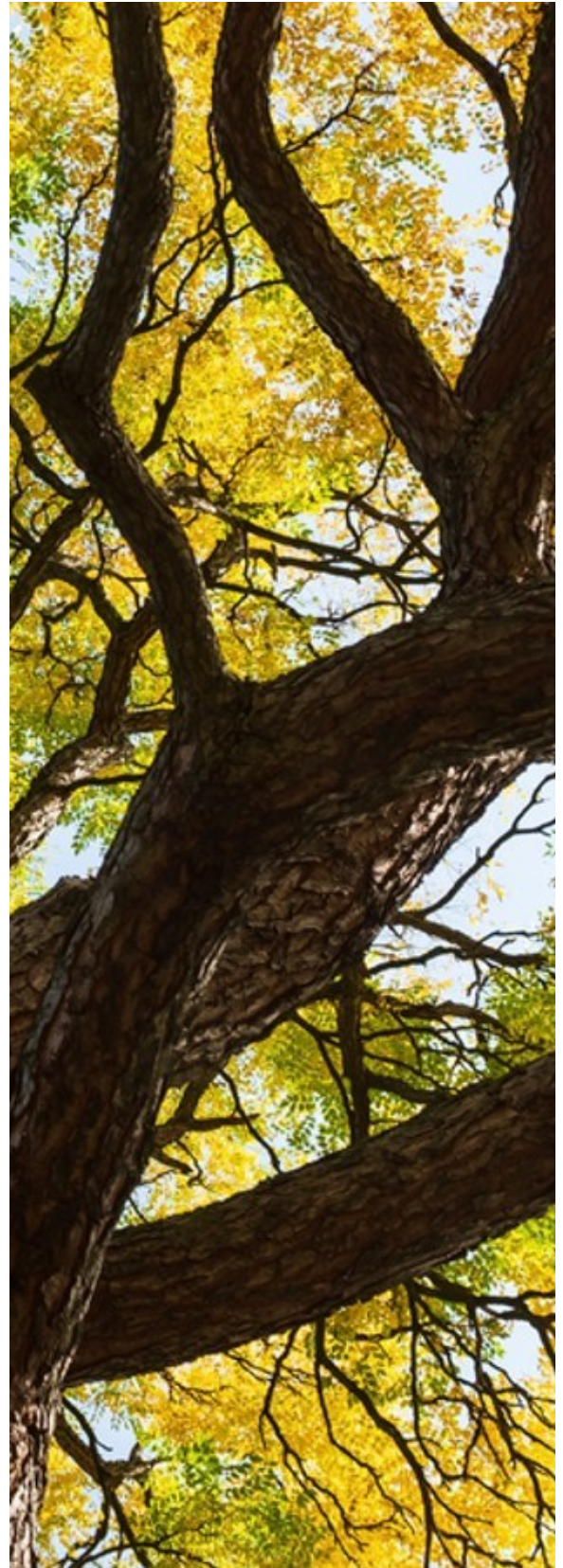
### Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*)

#### Get to know your tree:

The Kentucky coffeetree is a Michigan native species with large, bipinnately compound leaves with 10-18 leaflets, each with 6-14 small, oblong subleaflets. Fall leaf color is typically a bright yellow. Flowers are small, white, and clustered on spikes at twig tips. Fruits are large kidney-shaped orange-brown pods that turn blackish with age and persist into winter. Bark is pale grey with narrow ridges and orange-red furrows when young, turning brownish and developing small curled scales with age.

#### Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter Kentucky coffeetree provides approximately \$42.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels by 34 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger Kentucky coffeetrees, visit [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com).



## Fun facts about your tree:

The seeds are poisonous when raw, but can be roasted and used as a coffee substitute.

This species leafs out late in spring and loses its leaves early in the fall, meaning it is frequently bare. The genus name, *Gymnocladus*, is Greek for ‘naked branch.’



## 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). Kentucky coffeetrees grow to heights of 60-75 feet, with a spread of around 40-50 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 well in most soil types. It is tolerant of air pollution, heat, and salt.

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 relatively tolerant of drought, and won't 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](http://www.a2gov.org/10ktrees)