

# Deciduous (Broadleaf) Trees

The Emerald Ash Borer has decimated Ash trees in Michigan. Most of the trees below are good replacements. The Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN) has photos & descriptions of over 400 invasive species, training sessions, & reporting information on invasive plants across Michigan! Sign-up today to help managers work to protect our environment at [misin.msu.edu](http://misin.msu.edu) or look for MISIN in your phone's app store! Help stop the spread of new invasive species threats in Southwest Michigan! Be on the look out for pencil sized holes in trees (asian long-horned beetle) & report immediately.



Black Gum

**River Birch** (*Betula nigra*) (not pictured)

H 40-70 ft. Native. Wetland Forest. Tolerant to many soil conditions. Cinnamon-colored unique curling bark. Rapid growth, tolerant to wetness and some drought, naturally shrugs off summer heat, has spreading limbs, & is relatively resistant to birch borer.

**Black Gum** (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

H 65-80 ft. Native. Wetland & Upland Edge. Shade tolerant. Winter architecture pretty. Displays various hues of yellow, orange, purple, & mainly scarlet fall foliage. Metallic blue fruits in summer. Important late-spring food source for bees. Deer do not browse.



Sycamore in winter

**Shagbark Hickory** (*Carya ovata*) (not pictured)

H 60-80 ft. Native Upland Forest. Straight trunked tree. The bark on older trees consists of rough plates which become free at one or both ends & curve outward giving a shaggy appearance. It is tolerant of a wide range of soils. The edible nut, is sweet & enclosed in a self-separating thick husk. The wood is heavy & tough. A number of large & beautiful moths require this tree as a food plant.

**Sycamore, American Planetree** (*Platanus occidentalis*)

H 70-100 ft. Native. Wetland Forest; does well in Uplands too. Prefers rich bottom-lands along borders of rivers & lakes. Transplants well. Fast growing tree with grayish brown bark that exfoliates in large patches to expose the inner creamy white bark. Ideal city tree-does well due to resistance to air pollution.

**Sugar Maple** (*Acer saccharum*)

H 60-100 ft. Native. Upland Forest. Grows best in moist, fertile, well-drained soils. Source of sap for maple syrup. Wood is one of the hardest of the maples. Easy to transplant. Relatively slow growing. Hardy shade tree with dark green foliage that turns shades of red and orange in fall.



Sugar Maple harvesting

**Red Maple** (*Acer rubrum*) (not pictured)

H 40-60 ft. Native. Wetland Forest. Rapid grower. Does well in a very wide range of soil types, moisture and pH levels. Prefers swamplands or banks of streams, rarely found on hillsides. Sugar has been made in small quantities from sap. Bright red flowers in early spring are beneficial for pollinator species. Green leaves turn in fall to colors varying from yellow to scarlet.

**Tulip Poplar** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

H 70-90 ft. Rapid grower. Tallest of the eastern hardwoods. Goes well in range of soils. Can tolerate drought. Spring flowers resembling tulips bloom in May & June provide nectar for hummingbirds. Seeds mature in summer & persist into winter providing food for birds and small mammals. Bright green leaves turn vibrant yellow color in fall.



Tulip Poplar in autumn

In the last few years, Oak Wilt has become more and more prevalent in Southwest Michigan. White oaks are typically more resistant to this Fungi than red oaks! Be sure to pick up Oak Wilt flyer at tree sale for more information.

**White Oak** (*Quercus alba*)

H 50-80 ft. Native. Upland Forest & Open Canopy. Grows in well drained, clay, loam or sandy soils. Prefers full sun or part sun/part shade. Not recommended for planting within 8 ft of curbs, or driveways, as trunks flair out at base and can cause lifting of these surfaces. Broad dense headed tree with purple-red fall color. Is excellent for wildlife planting due to acorn production.



White Oak

**Want to enhance wild turkey habitat?**

Mast is the most important food source and a diverse mix of mast-producing trees & shrubs will do the trick. Most importantly, plant White & Red Oaks. Then for poor acorn years & to provide food in other seasons plant: Crabapple, Wild cherries & plums, Dogwoods, Pine, American persimmon, Chokeberries, Viburnums, Hickories, Hawthornes, Wild grape & Beech.

turkey tracks



MICHIGAN EDIBLE NATIVE specialty tree seedlings sold in individual pot:  
**Paw Paw** (*Asimina triloba*) H 15-25 ft. W 15-20. Large tropical appearance of the leaves change from light green to bright yellow in fall. Pest-free. Cold-hardy. Best in neutral soils. Fruit tastes like a banana, ripens in late September, with short shelf life. Obligatory food plant for the zebra swallowtail butterfly caterpillar. Deep burgundy-purple flowers in late spring. *Needs another paw paw tree for pollination.*