

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

Bur Oak

(Quercus macrocarpa)

Get to know your tree:

The bur oak is a Michigan native species with medium-to-large, pinnately lobed leaves with rounded lobes and deep sinuses. Leaves lack bristle tips and sinuses are deepest at midleaf. Fall leaf color is typically a golden-brown, bronze, or drab red. Flowers are catkins hanging below developing leaves in long strands. Fruits are large acorns with short stalks and deep, shaggy-fringed caps. Bark is pale grey, with long rectangular blocks and deep furrows.

Tree benefits:

Over 20 years, a 1-inch diameter bur oak is expected to provide approximately \$7.46 in benefits, avoid 430 gallons of stormwater runoff, and sequester 21.63 pounds of CO₂. To learn more about these benefits, or those of other trees, visit mytree.itreetools.org.



Fun facts about your tree:

One of the most tolerant oaks to urban conditions, this species is common in cities across the U.S. and appears on the seal of the City of Ann Arbor!

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). Bur oaks grow to heights of 70-100 feet, with a spread of around 80-100 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 sensitive to 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.



www.a2gov.org/10ktrees