Littleleaf Linden  
(Tilia cordata)

Get to know your tree:

The littleleaf linden is native to Europe, but is non-invasive in Michigan. It has small, heart-shaped leaves with uneven leaf bases. Fall leaf color is typically a pale yellow or yellow-brown. Flowers are small and greenish-yellow, and hang in clusters from narrow, pale green leafy bracts. Fruits are small, round nuts. Bark is smooth and brown on younger trees, and becomes darker and slightly furrowed with age.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter littleleaf linden provides approximately $28.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO₂ levels by 6 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger littleleaf linden trees, please visit www.treebenefits.com.
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). Littleleaf lindens grow to heights of 50-60 feet, with a spread of around 40 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 salt. 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 not tolerant of drought and will 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.

Fun fact about your tree:

There is evidence of this species being planted as early as 760 A.D. In early Norway, the tree was known as a favorite of Freyja, the goddess of love. However, in other regions of Scandinavia, it was thought to be a favorite haunt of elves and fairies.

www.a2gov.org/10ktrees